

16,000 private sector steelmen strike but leaders are likely to obey Denning order

Iron and Steel Trades Confederation leaders are expected to rescind their strike order to private sector workers today, obeying Lord Denning's ruling.

Leave sought for plea to Law Lords

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Leaders of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation are expected to rescind their strike order to private sector steelworkers today, obeying Lord Denning's ruling that the ISTC executive must withdraw its strike call. The application will be considered on Thursday, and if it is granted, the appeal will be heard the day after.

While these legal moves were in train yesterday, an estimated 16,000 private sector members of the union defied the Court of Appeal and stopped work in 43 of the industry's 44 plants. ISTC officials believe that many will stay out unofficially even if the executive goes back on its attempt to spread the month-old state steel shutdown.

Shop stewards at Ductile Steel in the West Midlands sent a telegram to the union's general secretary, Mr William Sims, urging: "Keep up the fight. 100 per cent behind you." Similar messages of militancy came from workers at other private sector companies, where the strike instruction was originally thought to be deeply unpopular.

The Court of Appeal decision appears to have intensified feelings in the strike. There were emotional scenes in Cardiff, where miners, railwaymen, transport workers and other trade unionists joined the striking steelmen in a day of protest that brought South Wales to a virtual standstill.

TUC leaders, anxious to avert the threat of an unlimited shutdown of industry in the area from March 10 over the British Steel Corporation's closure plan, have now been told they can put their arguments about the financial crisis of the industry to senior Cabinet ministers on Thursday.

The TUC General Council has threatened "the most serious industrial consequences" if BSC does not open early consultations with the unions on "a reasonable accommodation of the separate dispute about redundancies in state steel this year."

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, yesterday heard a progress report from union negotiators for craft and iron, or accept the advice and instruction of their trade union.

Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the Yorkshire miners, said yesterday that the Court of Appeal's ruling, banning the extension of the steel strike to the private sector, should be ignored.

The ruling was deplorable, he said. "Lord Denning (Master of the Rolls) has given a judgment which is in line with Conservative Party philosophy and trade union members involved in this dispute should recognize that."

"They have a simple choice to make. They either accept the decision of three men in wigs sitting in a remote part of London, or accept the advice and instruction of their trade union."

"I hope they accept the advice of their trade union, come out on strike, continue to picket, and win their dispute."

Mr Scargill was speaking after the Yorkshire Union of Mineworkers, meeting in Barnsley, had decided to block steel deliveries to collieries and coal board workshops. The National Coal Board said: "We regret this attempt to involve the coal industry in a dispute to which neither the NUM nor the coal board are parties."

But many strikers may stay out. Union lawyers have petitioned the Law Lords for leave to appeal against the ruling, which Mr Arthur Scargill attacked yesterday, saying it should be completely ignored. Other trade unionists in South Wales joined the striking steelmen in a day of protest.



Marchers winding their way along the Queen Street pedestrian precinct in Cardiff, during the steel strike rally.

Strike leader ready to go to prison

By Tim Jones and Donald Macintyre

Strikers attending the largest political rally Wales has witnessed since the war yesterday roared their defiance of the Government after being told by Mr William Sims, general secretary of the biggest steel union, that he and two colleagues could be imprisoned unless they obey the Court of Appeal decision to prevent the dispute spreading to the private sector.

During an emotional and highly-charged rally, Mr Sims broke into tears as he was welcomed at a hotel by some of the 100,000 men whose one-day strike paralysed ports, railways, mines and public transport throughout Wales.

Mr Sims said: "We have found out today there is a penal clause in the judgment. Unless my executive council meeting tomorrow afternoon lifts the direction to our membership then I, with my president and vice-president, will be imprisoned."

"If my executive makes this decision I will follow it gladly wherever it leads. I have no intention of letting down my union or the working class in general."

Asked afterwards whether he would go willingly to prison, Mr Sims said: "I am fighting for the working class and I do not care what happens."

He then spoke of the possibility of a general strike. "It is the last thing that people in responsible positions want, but if it is the last thing left to you, you take it. I will go back to the TUC and tell them very clearly that this is a battle we have got to fight to the death."

Mr Sims added: "The demonstration has shown that the working class has begun to realize that unless they can demonstrate and revolt against policies that are dragging us down and taking away our jobs, leaving us without hope or employment, we shall be a fourth-rate nation."

Mr Michael Foot, deputy leader of the Labour Party, was scornful of Lord Denning's Master of the Rolls, who had allowed the appeal decision. He asked: "Just who does he think he is?"

Paraphrasing *The Times* leading article, Mr Foot said: "Mr Sims has been given a choice by a referee who has just changed the rules. May he be given a choice by a referee who thinks he has the right to make the rules. All of us in this country have to understand we have to obey the law. We are not a lawless nation."

Continued on page 2, col 1

Poll shows Catholic support for divorce

By Clifford Langley
Religious Affairs Correspondent

In the first reliable measurement of grass-roots opinion in the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales, a comprehensive survey has found important divergences from official teaching on moral matters, but a high level of orthodoxy on religious faith.

The survey, sponsored independently of the Roman Catholic Church, was published yesterday. It will be a main topic at the national pastoral congress of the church in Liverpool in May, not least because it draws attention to the crisis affecting Roman Catholic teaching on sex and marriage.

Probably the most surprising single figure in the whole survey was the support for divorce. Officially, the remarriage of divorced Catholics is not permitted: any such marriage is regarded as invalid and at least potentially sinful.

Explaining the reasoning behind the increase in military expenditure, Mr Brown said that during the 1960s the United States had spent about 30 per cent more on defence than the Soviet Union, but in the 1970s this country had been spending about 30 per cent less.

The recent adverse trend had concerned the Administration "for a considerable time". Mr Brown said, as had Soviet attempts to take advantage of its increased military might. "We need to be able to come quickly and with decisive force to the aid of our friends or to defend our own," he added.

The two new programmes unveiled in the budget include construction of the first two maritime prepositioning ships, to provide combat unit equipment and supplies for specially organized marine amphibious brigades, as well as a new lift aircraft, the HCX, for rapid deployment of combat forces.

In addition, a 5.2 per cent real increase in the operations and maintenance sector of the budget will provide significant improvements in readiness by continuing the existing concentration on operational training and material maintenance.

The budget's other main objectives are efforts to ensure that American strategic nuclear forces will be "essentially equivalent" to those of the Soviet Union; that the military balance between NATO and the Warsaw Pact will continue to deter the outbreak of either conventional or nuclear war in Europe; and that the United States Navy will continue to be the most powerful on the seas.

Air Force missile procurement funding in 1981 is about 28 per cent higher in real terms than during the current financial year. The most important increases relate to Minuteman improvements and full-scale production of the air-launched cruise missile.

Other improvements in the air and sea-based legs of the nuclear "triad" include \$1,500m worth of funds for the research and development of the MX mobile missile and substantial funds for continuing development of all types of cruise missile—including adaptation of the B52 aircraft to carry and launch them.

On the Navy side, procurement programmes provide for real growth in shipbuilding, although the actual funds allocated are less than this year's because of the construction of a huge \$2,500m aircraft carrier in the 1980 budget.

Seventeen new ships are to be built and two converted. They include the ninth Trident nuclear strategic missile submarine, a third and fourth CG-47 class Aegis cruiser, four additional FFG-7 patrol frigates, five anti-submarine warfare ships, an amphibious landing ship and a rescue and salvage ship.

For the Army, production of the new main battle tank, the XM1, will be stepped up. Spending on the tank, which is gradually replacing M60 series vehicles, will rise next year to \$1,100m from this year's \$740m. Research and development funds are being allocated to integrate the 1.0mm gun with this new tank.

One of the biggest increases is in spending on the military research and defence programme. A 13.2 per cent increase in real growth is designed to strengthen the technology base, modernize strategic forces "vigorously" and continue development of important tactical programmes.

General budget, page 6

Record defence budget aimed at equipping US to go quickly to aid of allies if Soviet threat grows

From David Cross
Washington, Jan 28

President Carter's latest defence budget, a record \$142,700m (£52,863m) includes two new programmes designed to enable the United States to come quickly to the aid of friends and allies if the Soviet Union tries to take further advantage of its intervention in Afghanistan.

Mr Harold Brown, the Defence Secretary, told a press conference called here to discuss the budget for the 1981 financial year that he did not think there was a likelihood of imminent conflict with the Soviet Union.

"If we carry out sustained improvements (in American defence), I believe the Soviets will be more cautious in trying to throw their weight about," he said. "It is only if that is not deterred that the risk of war would rise to a dangerous condition. We are not there yet."

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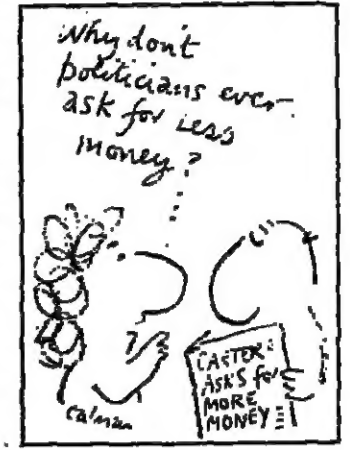
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General budget, page 6



Snub to Kabul by 36 Islamic countries

Islamabad, Tuesday morning.

Islamic Foreign Ministers today passed a resolution condemning the Soviet Union for "military aggression" in Afghanistan.

Mr Agia Shani, chairman of the Islamic Conference Organization which has been meeting here since Sunday, said that Foreign Ministers of 36 Muslim states agreed to suspend the Soviet-backed government in Kabul from the organization.

The ministers also resolved that the 41 ICO member states should consider boycotting the Olympic Games in Moscow and should withhold recognition of the Government of Mr Babrak Karmal in Afghanistan.

Mr Shani, who is also Pakistan's Secretary-General for Foreign Affairs, said the conference agreed unanimously to cease all aid and forms of assistance to the Government in Kabul.

The ministers decided to urge all states to support the Afghan people and provide assistance to the 500,000 refugees from Afghanistan now living in Pakistan.

The resolution said three member states would set up a committee to supervise contributions to the Afghan people and to the Afghan people in their struggle to regain national integrity.

Mr Shani said the resolution "solemnly declares its complete solidarity with the Islamic countries neighbouring Afghanistan against any threat to their security and well-being."

It also calls on member states to support and extend all possible cooperation to the Muslim countries adjacent to Afghanistan to help them safeguard their sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity.

Eleven states expressed reservations over the part of the resolution which calls on member states to consider boycotting the Moscow games "until the Soviet Union, in compliance with the call of the United Nations General Assembly, withdraws all its troops forthwith from Afghanistan."

Three nations lodged "reservations" over the measure calling for the withholding of diplomatic recognition from the Kabul Government and six had reservations about severing diplomatic links.

The resolution on Afghanistan, combined with the appearance yesterday of six Afghan leaders, represented a diplomatic setback for Moscow, according to the heels of United Nations vote against the Soviet intervention. —Reuters and UPI.

Russia told of Afghan resistance

From Michael Bloyon
Moscow, Jan 28

Parade reported today that saboteurs in Afghanistan were killing people and destroying bridges and communications lines in different parts of the country. This, it said, had forced the Afghan Army to remain in a state of military alert.

In the most detailed reports so far appearing in the Soviet press on the actual fighting in Afghanistan, the correspondents described clashes between the Afghan Army and "bandit units."

The bandits, as the newspaper called the insurgents, were sometimes able to seize a power station or control a road. The Defence Minister, Mr Karmal's Government said there had been fighting in the regions of Taloan, Faizabad and Baglan in the north-east of the country near the Soviet frontier, and in the south of Jalalabad on the main road from Kabul through the Khyber pass to Peshawar in Pakistan.

The report made no mention of any engagements involving Soviet troops. But it said that across the frontier in Pakistan and China there were being set up by the United States, Britain and China for subversive activity against Afghanistan.

Mr Kitson resigns from inquiry

By George Clark

Mr Alex Kitson, senior official of the Transport and General Workers' Union, has resigned from the commission of inquiry into the future organization of the Labour Party.

Labour MPs who have been demanding a change in the inquiry's composition were delighted with the news yesterday.

Mr Kitson, a member of the section of the national executive elected by the trade unions, is well known for his pro-Soviet views.

There was much criticism among some trade unionists of that two leading members of the TGWU, Mr Mostyn (Moss) Evans, general secretary, and Mr Kitson, should have been included when "moderate" union men were excluded.

Civil Service action warning

The Civil and Public Services Association, the largest Civil Service union, is drawing up contingency plans to take industrial action if the Government does not pay in full salary increases proposed after a full salary research unit investigation. The 1980 Pay Research Unit investigation suggested increases of between 15 and 20 per cent.

Canton trial of strength
Canton dissidents have appealed to all Chinese political activists to unite against repression. The appeal speaks of frenzied reprisals against the recently emerged human rights groups, and foresees a trial of strength lasting for maybe 10 years.

Saudi oil price rise
Saudi Arabia, in a surprise move, has increased the price of its crude oil by \$2 to \$26 a barrel. Oil companies said it could raise the price of four-star petrol by 2p a gallon.

Abortion Bill fear
The Abortion (Amendment) Bill might go through because many MPs did not realize its full implications, Mr William Hamilton, the Labour MP, said.

Students in Tehran reject criticism

Students occupying the American Embassy in Tehran have rejected a criticism by Mr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, Iran's president-elect, that they form a potential rival government. They say they approve of Mr Bani-Sadr's election but insist on their right to disagree with his views.

London docks threat
London could lose the India and Millwall Docks unless faster progress is made on improving productivity and a reduction in manpower. Mr Victor Paige, the new chairman of the Port of London Authority, said.

Aircraft death fall: Industrialist's wife was absent-minded, psychiatrist tells inquest.

Paris: French fleet idea of European defence force outside NATO.

Murderer killed man in same cell

Vincent Smith, aged 20, a psychopath serving a life sentence for murder, killed a minor offender, aged 20, who was with him in the same cell at Wormwood Scrubs. Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, MP, has tabled a Commons motion demanding an explanation.

Leader, page 13
Letters: On social service cuts, from the Bishop of Coventry, and Mr R. Hurst; on the Olympics, from Mr A. G. K. Brown, and Professor Ian Pinlay.

Features, pages 10, 12
Henry Sanhope on setting up health centres in Rhodesia; Jane Ellis on Russia's "religious spring".

Sports, page 9
Football: Bolton Wanderers dismiss manager; FA Cup fifth round draw; Cricket: West Indies build on lead against Australia.

Wedding Day, 1940

Honeymoons in 1940 tended to be rather shorter than usual; and many of those who look forward to a ruby wedding anniversary this year surely have more than the customary reasons for celebration.

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HOME NEWS

Union plans disruption if wage rises are not paid

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

The largest Civil Service union is drawing up contingency plans to take industrial action if the Government does not pay in full salary increases proposed after a comparison exercise with private industry.

In a circular to his 220,000 members, Mr Kenneth Thomas, general secretary of the Civil Service Public Services Association, gives a warning of "the spectre of another area of arbitrary interference in our pay bargaining."

He also discloses that his union is already working on a programme of disruption.

There was widespread dislocation in the Civil Service last spring over the outgoing Labour government's incomes policy when key staff, particularly computer operators, were brought out on strike.

CPSA leaders appear to be preparing for a similar conflict over implementation of 15-20 per cent pay increases suggested by the 1980 Pay Research Unit (PRU).

"The concern of the whole Civil Service trade union movement is whether the Government will want, in one way or another, to restrict the increases for pay due to us under the PRU, either by cash limits or by some totally artificial enhancement of the value of our pensions or so-called job security," Mr Thomas says in the letter.

He also announced intention of fixing such cash limits upon the basis of employers' interpretation of PRU evidence. We also declare that we will resist any attempt to interfere with our pension scheme, as well as any attempt to impose staging of the settlement.

The union has bolstered its industrial action fund by transferring £500,000 into it, and another ominous sign is the Civil Service executive's insistence that all sections of the CPSA will be involved if last year's disruption is repeated.

Members in the sensitive ministries dealing with the public, Employment and Health and Social Security, were excluded from the last round of strikes. This time there would be strong internal pressure to involve services to the public as well as activity crucial to the operation of government.

Minister's warning: Mr Paul Channon, Minister of State at the Civil Service Department, said yesterday that senior civil servants in top Whitehall posts would not be spared in cuts being made in Civil Service manpower (Peter Hennessy writes).

Mr Channon, in evidence to the Commons Select Committee on the Treasury and Civil Service, said that 11,000 of the 39,000 jobs due to disappear over the next three years would be saved by transferring work to the private sector.

'Mandarins' attacked by Mr Benn as menace to democracy

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

The power, influence and authority of the senior members of the Civil Service, especially now that Britain is a member of the EEC, had grown, to such an extent as to create the embryo of a corporate state, Mr Wedgwood Benn, the former Labour Cabinet minister, said last night.

Lecturing at Chatham House, London, on the role of the Civil Service, under the auspices of the Royal Institute of Public Administration, Mr Benn was taking part in a campaign against civil servants directly to the people he had attacked in three speeches since October.

At the Labour Party conference last year he alleged that top civil servants had a programme for the United Kingdom which they tried to get carried out by ministers, no matter what party was in power.

Last night he went further: he thought that "Whitehall policies" put forward by members of all parties for the last twenty years, had accompanied a steady decline in Britain's fortunes, "now accelerating into a near-catastrophic collapse of our industrial base."

Mr Benn said that the emergence of a Civil Service which was the embryo of a corporate state would threaten democracy.

"Major constitutional reforms are urgently needed to restore the authority of the House of Commons, to secure effective ministerial control over the Civil Service, and to move towards a more constitutional type of premiership," he said.

When senior civil servants saw a new government coming to power with a policy that went outside their consensus, plans were laid that would divert ministerial energies into channels that did not disturb the even flow of established Whitehall policy.

"It is not coincidence that governments of both parties appear to end up with policies very similar to each other and which are, in every case, a great deal more acceptable to Whitehall than were the manifestos upon which parties were originally elected," he said.

There was also now the EEC, a mandarin's paradise. "The considered judgment of many about the role of most civil servants, but particularly those in the Foreign Office, is that in a deep sense many, if not most, of them, are transferring their real allegiance from the United Kingdom to the European Community," Mr Benn said.

To reopen the campaign for democracy, it was necessary to consider seriously a freedom of information Act; stronger parliamentary control; a more constitutional premiership; more ministerial control over the Civil Service; abolition of patronage; and an amendment to the European Communities Act to restore full power to the elected House of Commons.

The February issue of *History Today* examines the historical background to the resurgence of Islam—the motive force in today's arc of crisis.

Hamid Enayat, Professor of Political Philosophy at Tehran University asks why it is happening now and how it differs from previous resurgences and Leila Ahmed, sometime Associate Professor at the United Arab Emirates University looks at the 'pure' Islam to which leaders of the resurgence seek to return.

Both articles are essential reading for anyone seeking to understand current events in the tumultuous arc of Morocco to Afghanistan.

The award, made annually by the independent television programme *What the Papers Say*, was given to the newspaper because it was considered that it had done the job of invigilating authority better than any other last year and because of its news coverage.

Mr Anthony Howard, editor of *The Listener*, announced the awards at a ceremony in London yesterday.

Other awards were: Mr Robert Carr, of the Sunday Express, Editor of the Year; Dr Colin Cline, of the Sunday Express, Editor of the Year; Mr Brian McNeill, of the Sunday Express, Editor of the Year; Mr Brian McNeill, of the Sunday Express, Editor of the Year; Mr Brian McNeill, of the Sunday Express, Editor of the Year.

Mr Kennedy, the Ginsburgs and the two companies were also committed on a charge of falsifying documents relating to exports.

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Whitehall brief: Two thirds of first-division staff want to operate as union

Senior civil servants suffer mild schizophrenia

By Peter Hennessy

Nobody understands raw power better than a senior civil servant. An accomplished official, pausing outside his ministry after a convivial lunch, once told me, as his parting remark, that Lord Acton was quite wrong about power corrupting.

"For any civil servant," he said, "all power is delightful: absolute power is absolutely delightful." Then he strode away and proceeded to wield it.

His union, however, the Association of First Division Civil Servants, known to all as the FDA, is deeply ambivalent about power of the industrial kind. Should it contemplate strike action to protect its members' standard of life or should it emphasize its commitment to public service and eschew disruption of any kind? In short, should the FDA be a trade union or a managers' staff association?

When faced with the choice, the FDA has, in the past, demonstrated symptoms of mild schizophrenia. It is doing so at the moment as its executive prepares to discuss a paper on industrial action at its next meeting on February 7.

At the association's last annual conference, the FDA executive was instructed to examine the matter in the wake of the "day of action" taken by all Civil Service unions on April 2. About one third of its 10,000 members (the figure includes the Association of In-spectors of Taxes) came out, including a handful of under-secretaries who stood on picket lines outside their departments.

The paper prepared for next month's meeting declares against strike action except as a weapon of last resort in extreme circumstances. The possibility of concluding a no-strike agreement with the Government is mentioned.

Great emphasis is placed on consulting the membership before industrial action of any kind is taken.

Mr George Marshall, acting general secretary of the FDA since Mr Norman Ellis left for the British Medical Association in December 1978, is open about the division of opinion among his members. He says that two thirds want to operate as a trade union. Generally they are the economists, the statisticians and the younger civil servants. The difficulty arises with "the old administrative-



Mr George Marshall (left) and Mr John Ward in Whitehall.

class people" at the summit of Whitehall.

On Friday, Mr Marshall, aged 63, a veteran of the Diplomatic Service, will revert to his former post as deputy general secretary of the Bank of England Staff Organization, who was appointed to the FDA job late last year. Mr Ward thinks that quips about his new employers' "mild schizophrenia" are a journalist's exaggeration and complains that the world at large does not understand or value them sufficiently.

Asked to name the achievements he would like to have under his belt when *The Times* asks for a progress report on his stewardship in five years, he lists three:

1. A greater appreciation of the role of senior civil servants.
2. The continuation of the "fair comparison" method of paying civil servants, with the findings of the pay research system implemented in full, and greater participation by the FDA in the processes of the Top Salaries Review Body.
3. The talent that exists within the FDA harnessed through its membership of the Trades Union Congress, to securing better industrial relations generally.

In the meantime, the FDA with a newly acquired seat on the TUC's public services committee, will have to find ways of living with any "days of action" mounted against the very trade union reform legislation its members have helped ministers to prepare.

Campaign to improve widows' lot is launched

By Penny Symon

A campaign was launched in London yesterday to persuade the Government to improve the lot of Britain's three million widows by changing the taxation system in the forthcoming Budget.

The Widows' Charter, 1980, drawn up by the National Association of Widows, says that the time is long overdue for the ending of discrimination against widows by both the Treasury and the Department of Health and Social Security.

"Taxation is the one thing that hits widows especially hard," Mrs June Hemer, the association's secretary, said.

The charter says that widows depending entirely on their state pension may be liable to pay income tax; working widows, taxed as single people, pay more than married women doing the same job; and widows paying full National Insurance contributions are denied benefits they have paid for.

The charter demands that the widows' allowance, paid during the first six months of widowhood, should be free of tax; that all widows' pensions should be ignored as income for tax purposes; that widows who pay full National Insurance contributions should be entitled to receive the benefits for which they have contributed; and that the reduced pensions of women widowed before their fiftieth birthday should be increased on a sliding scale until the full pension was payable at 50.

'Guardian' wins top press award

Reports on jury voting at a recent award ceremony at the Central Criminal Court and an investigation into virginity tests on immigrants at Heathrow airport have helped *The Guardian* to win the Newspaper of the Year award.

The award, made annually by the independent television programme *What the Papers Say*, was given to the newspaper because it was considered that it had done the job of invigilating authority better than any other last year and because of its news coverage.

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Court clears Lord Kagan's son of fraud charges

Michael Kagan, aged 28, son of Lord Kagan, was discharged at Leeds Magistrates' Court yesterday after Mr Ian Boyd, the Hull stipendiary magistrate, ruled there was no prima facie case against him to go for trial.

But Mr Boyd, who has been hearing commercial proceedings which have lasted 16 days, ruled that there was a case to go for trial against Lady Kagan, three other individual defendants and two companies.

Mr Kagan, of Barkisland Hall, Barkisland, near Halifax, West Yorkshire, had been charged with conspiracy to defraud in connection with a scheme to export denim cloth abroad and retain the profits abroad, and also with dishonestly falsifying an invoice required for an accounting purpose.

The other defendants are Lady Kagan, aged 54, of Fitchy Road, Huddersfield; Raymond Kennedy, aged 53, of Wedgewood Drive, Leeds; Valdemar Ginsburg and his wife, Ibolya, of Broomfield, Hullen Edge.

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Elland, West Yorkshire; Cellofoam (Yorkshire) Ltd, of Rastick, West Yorkshire; and Kagan Textiles Ltd, of Elland.

They were all committed for trial charged with conspiracy to defraud the Crown over the proceeds from denim cloth exports.

Lady Kagan, Mr Kennedy, Cellofoam (Yorkshire) Ltd and Cellofoam (Yorkshire) Ltd were also committed on three charges of being concerned in exporting denim cloth from Britain to Belgium with intent to evade export prohibitions.

Valdemar Ginsburg was committed on one of those charges but Mr Boyd ruled that there was no case against him on the other two and they were dismissed.

Mr Kennedy, the Ginsburgs and the two companies were also committed on a charge of falsifying documents relating to exports.

For Lady Kagan, the Ginsburgs and Mr Kennedy was continued.

Two questioned on Conflat death

Two men were still being questioned by detectives yesterday in connection with the murder of Maxwell Conflat, aged 26, a homosexual prostitute, as police frogmen again searched a lake near East Grinstead, Sussex.

It was also disclosed last night that the Director of Public Prosecutions is advising Scotland Yard on new inquiries into the murder eight years ago, which led to a legal tangle.

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£158,000 school fire charge

A former pupil of Uppingham School, accused of causing fire damage estimated at £158,000 at the public school, appeared before magistrates yesterday.

The youth, aged 16, is charged with starting a fire in a house-master's study.

The case was adjourned for a month pending preparations for a commitment to the crown court at Leicester. The youth was remanded on bail on condition that he lives with his grandparents.

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Union 'villains' blamed for destroying company

From Our Correspondent

Nottingham
Guy Wayne, aged 71, the former managing director of two magazines, attacked trade unions in his address to a jury at Nottingham Crown Court yesterday.

He appeared in his own defence and said that his magazine company was profitable until 1975, when it was affected by a series of strikes and industrial action. He blamed union "villains" for destroying his company and said the circulation of the Nottingham Observer plunged from 10,000 a month to just over 2,000.

Mr Wayne, of Colston Bassett Hall, near Nottingham, said: "Fleet Street is suffering from the same anarchy. When you get a bolshie works it is impossible to run a business. These unions are ruining the whole

country, not just Fleet Street."

Mr Wayne, Malcolm Campbell, aged 44, his former deputy managing director, and Arthur Dewey, aged 55, the company's chartered accountant, have pleaded not guilty to conspiracy to defraud advertisers by falsely inflating circulation figures of the Nottingham Observer and the Tatler and Bystander.

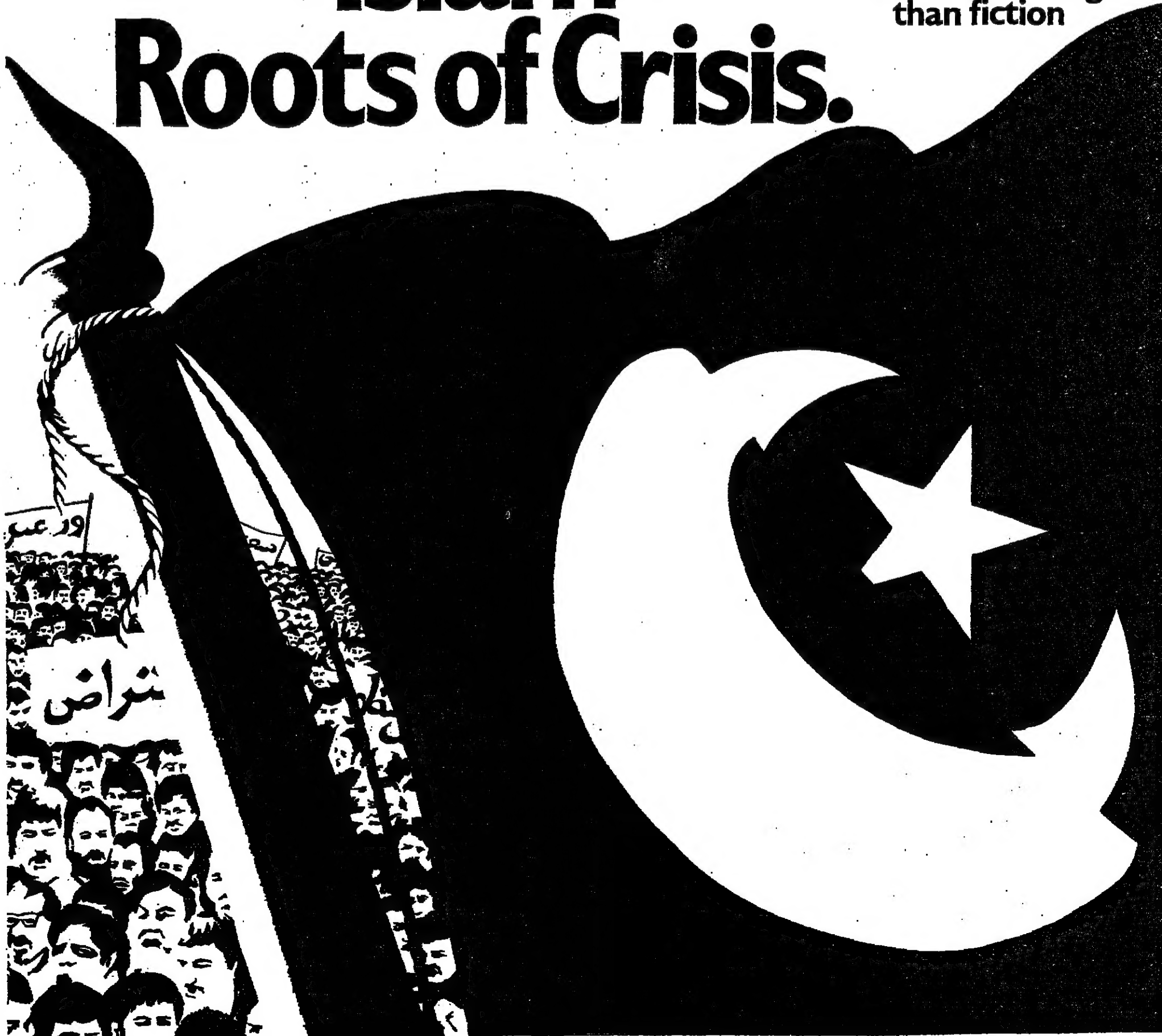
A fourth defendant, Leonard Sutton, aged 57, printing works foreman, was acquitted on the direction of Judge Lloyd. He was awarded costs out of public funds.

Mr Wayne told the jury that after only 15 minutes in the witness box it was patently obvious that Mr Sutton was innocent. "There must be something sadly lacking in the Nottinghamshire police. Do you think Sutton was prosecuted or persecuted?"

The trial continues today.

Islam-Roots of Crisis.

More fascinating than fiction



HOME NEWS

Abortion Bill's full implications are not realized, MP says

By Annabel Ferriman
The Abortion (Amendment) Bill might go through Parliament because many MPs did not realize its full implications, Mr William Hamilton, Labour MP for Fife, Central, said yesterday.

Many MPs were supporting the Bill because they were in favour of reducing the time limit for abortions from the present 28 weeks, but they did not understand what other effects it would have, Mr Hamilton said.

The Bill, which was opposed by the main medical organizations, including the British Medical Association and the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, would have the effect of reducing the number of abortions by three-quarters and destroying the abortion charities which carried out a third of all abortions.

An early day motion signed by 151 MPs had been put down in the Commons on Friday and more were expected to sign it, Mr Hamilton said.

The motion points out that while the Bill proposed to change the criteria for abortion, Dr Gerard Vaughan, Minister of State for Health, said last July that the professions involved did not believe that the criteria should be changed.

Mr Hamilton and the four other MPs who opposed the Bill in committee yesterday tabled 40 amendments to it. Other amendments are expected from Mrs Renée Short, Labour MP for Wolverhampton, North-East, and Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party.

The Bill is due to come back to the floor of the House for its report stage on February 8 and is at the top of the order paper for the next Friday. If no other private member's Bill comes out of committee stage during February it could be discussed on several subsequent Fridays.

Mr Hamilton and his colleagues propose in their amendments that the time limit for abortion should be raised from the 20 weeks of pregnancy now laid down in the Bill to 24 weeks, the limit supported by most of the medical organizations.

They also propose that the Secretary of State for Social Services should have the same control over the abortion charities as he was given over the private abortion clinics by the Abortion Act, 1967, to reassure the public that no abuses were taking place.

The clause of the Bill that deals with charities aims to break the financial link between the abortion clinics and the referral agency, so that those counselling a pregnant woman have no financial interest in her having an abortion.

The clause states that if any member of staff leaves a clinic to work for any organization that counsels pregnant women, that clinic shall lose its licence.

Mrs Diane Munday, of the British Pregnancy Advisory Service, said that the clause was against natural justice because it made clinics responsible for the future actions of their employees.

Mr Hamilton said that some supporters of the Abortion (Amendment) Bill were filibustering in the committee stage of the compulsory seat belts Bill to prevent it from coming back to the floor of the House for its report stage and thus competing for time with the abortion Bill.

Mr Ian Mikardo, Labour MP for Tower Hamlets, Bethnal Green and Bow, said that as a result of that filibustering many fewer private members' Bills were likely to be passed this session than in previous sessions.

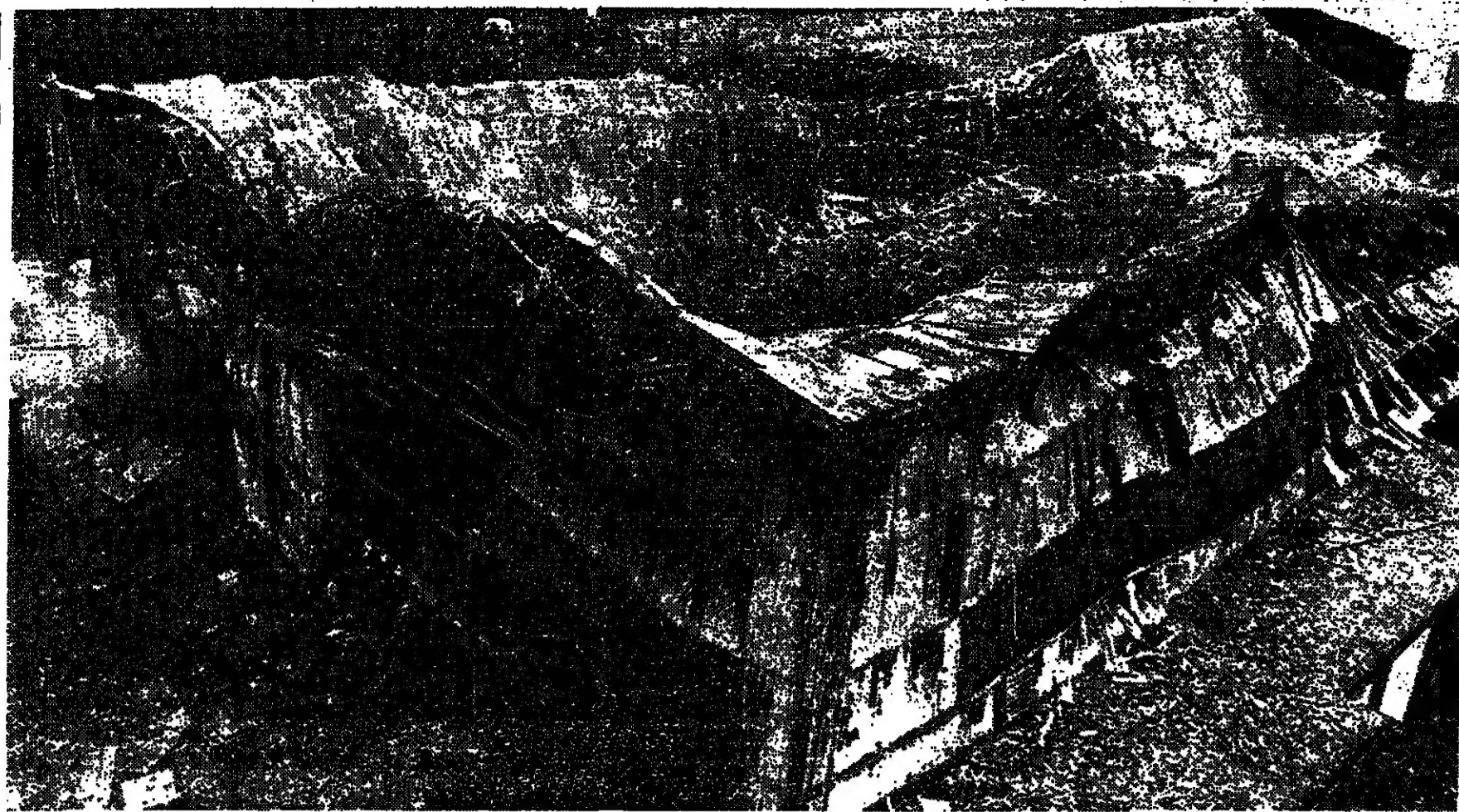
The organization, Doctors in Defence of the 1967 Abortion Act, which has more than 2,000 members, has written to every MP expressing its opposition to the Bill, saying that it would produce too much doubt and confusion for doctors and patients that more late abortions would result instead of fewer.

Five church leaders from north-east Scotland have formed a delegation and are to lobby MPs at the Commons today to oppose the Bill. They are the Rev James F. Scott, Moderator of the Presbytery of Aberdeen, the Right Rev George Sessford, Episcopal Bishop of Moray, Ross and Caithness, the Right Rev Mario Cori, Roman Catholic Bishop of Aberdeen, Canon James Alexander, Convener of the Episcopal Social Service Board, and the Rev Graham Bruce, Convener of the Public Question Committee of the United Free Church.

Contraceptive pill denial: Doctors strongly denied yesterday that they were breaking the law by giving the contraceptive pill to young girls (the Press Association reports). Dr Vaughan said on Sunday: "Sexual relations with a girl under 16 are illegal and to supply her with contraceptives is condoning an illegal act."

Dr Michael Thomas, chairman of the British Medical Association's central ethical committee, said: "Our legal advice is that if a doctor is acting in good faith in the best interests of the patient he would not be an accessory before the fact."

"It depends what the minister is proposing. If he is going to put a Bill through Parliament, then it is another thing. If he is stating his opinion or that of his party, that is another."



All that is left of British Aerospace's Concorde plant at Weybridge, Surrey, after an outbreak of fire. Damage was estimated at £20m. Spares for 11 aircraft, including the Concorde, were destroyed. Police were waiting yesterday for firemen to damp down the wreckage before searching for the cause of the outbreak.

Mr Prior suggests an 'Open Tech'

By Diana Geddes

Education Correspondent

The establishment of an "Open Tech", using the distance-learning techniques of the Open University, to provide part-time courses for adults at technician level was suggested yesterday by Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment.

Mr Prior agreed that the Conservative Party had been very sceptical about the merits of the Open University when it was first set up in 1969, but he felt that it had settled down and improved, and that it was now performing an important task. If the Open University had not existed, 39,000 fewer people would have been able to realize their ambition to obtain a university degree. One in 16 of all United Kingdom graduates came through the Open University, he said.

Speaking at a press conference to announce the new graduates from the Open University, Mr Prior said that the university had enriched society. It had shown what could be achieved through a combination of new technology and all that was best in the ideals of education.

The future of Britain's economy depended on the ability of British industry to compete in international markets; that put a premium on people with scientific, engineering and technical qualifications.

The success of the Open University in providing primarily graduate-level education had made many people wonder whether the same principles could not be applied to technical education; technicians were also in great demand. The idea, he emphasized, was still in its infancy.

There were practical difficulties in applying distance learning techniques to technical education. But many experiments were going on, some of which might solve the difficulties of distance learning for skills.

The determination, motivation and ability of mature students such as those at the Open University should be given every encouragement. He appealed to industry and business to consider how they could help by paying fees (now £129 for a one-credit course and one week at summer school), by giving summer school leave, or by recognizing achievement through promotion.

Mr Prior held out no hope of the Government giving financial assistance to Open University students, whether in the form of grants or loans. Like all part-timers, Open University students are not eligible for the mandatory grant given to full-time undergraduates. Local authorities are severely reducing the number of discretionary awards for students.

Law change on nursery education unlikely

By Our Education Correspondent

The Government is unlikely to change the law to allow local authorities to charge parents for nursery education. Advice from officials suggests that the revenue would be minimal and not worth the legislative upheaval and public anger produced.

Estimates drawn up by the Department of Education and Science indicate that the new charges would bring in no more than about 5 per cent to 10 per cent of total expenditure on nursery education.

Local authorities in England and Wales spend £80m a year on the full-time equivalent of 230,000 nursery places. They would probably recoup less than £10m of that if they were allowed to charge the kind of fees they have proposed. Most are talking of between £2 and £5 a week.

About three-quarters of children in nursery schools and classes live in urban areas. Many are from poor families who would probably be eligible for free nursery education.

More revenue would be "lost" by those local authorities, probably Labour-controlled, who decided not to charge any fees. Any change in the law would empower authorities to charge, not make it a duty to do so.

No final decision has yet been taken by the Government on whether it will amend the Education Bill, or even introduce a new Bill, to give authorities the power to charge for nursery education; but it is considered unlikely to do so.

Whether or not the law is amended to allow nursery education charges, the Government is planning to change these sections of the Education Act, 1944, which, according to the recent ruling by the Attorney General, place a duty on local education authorities to make provision for nursery education, though how much is still not clear.

Under the amended law local authorities would be given the power, rather than the duty, to provide nursery education.

Actor is saved from prison

By Our Education Correspondent

A late decision by David Hemmings, the actor, to comply with a High Court order averted yesterday an attempt by his former wife, Gayle Hunnicutt, the actress, to have him jailed.

Miss Hunnicutt went to the Family Division of the High Court to ask Mr Justice Eversham to issue her former husband for contempt of court on the ground that he had not complied with an order made in December that he should provide her solicitors with a statement of his means.

The attempt to jail Mr Hemmings was dropped after he complied with the order. The judge said Mr Hemmings was plainly in contempt of the order of the court. However, as a result of advice given him by his solicitors he had at the eleventh hour complied with the order, and in the circumstances Miss Hunnicutt no longer sought to have him committed.

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Academy not to sell treasures to survive

By Kenneth Gossling

Arts Reporter

The Royal Academy, despite its financial difficulties, has no intention of selling any of its possessions, including the Michelangelo Tondo, its treasurer, Mr Roger de Grey, said yesterday.

The academicians "were bitterly opposed" to any sale, he said. "Only as a last-ditch manoeuvre to save the academy from extinction would any be sold; but I am sure it would never come to that, and that the Government, through the Arts Council, will take the course it is able to help us."

The successful Post-Impressionism exhibition, which is to be extended to March 30, delaying the summer exhibition by a fortnight, has had more than 280,000 visitors, bringing in £300,000.

In a breakdown of the Royal Academy's expenses, which total £560,000, Mr de Grey said the gap between that figure and an approximate assured income of £300,000 had to be made up by the income from exhibitions.

"That can be a bit of a gamble," he said. "We are in a better position than we have been in since the Turner exhibition, but we shall probably go into debt again."

Sir Hugh Casson, president of the academy, referred again to the Tondo at yesterday's annual press conference, where he said they felt it was still justifiable to lend it to the Soviet Union in exchange for an exhibition of treasures from Leningrad and Moscow.

The Government had refused to allow it to leave; but the academicians had "kept the ball in play".

Sir Hugh said an exhibition from Russia would be "fantastically successful". But the Russians struck hard, bargains and they had said: "The Tondo or nothing". Offered a loan of Leonardo drawings belonging to the Queen, they had said: "We should like them as well."

With negotiations having lasted for six years, Sir Hugh said, the door was still open. He also announced that apart from this summer's exhibition, which includes the first major European retrospective exhibition of the American realist artist, Andrew Wyeth, there is to be held in the winter of next year an exhibition of Japanese art which Sir Hugh called "the most expensive undertaking we have ever got into".

It will be staged with the aid of a £300,000 bridging loan from the Midland Bank, of which £125,000 will be interest-free.

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Postman shot by raiders

By Our Education Correspondent

A Blackpool post office was driver was shot in the leg receiving minor pellet wounds yesterday as armed raiders made off with about £9,000.

The raiders escaped in an Escort van, later found "abandoned" about a quarter of a mile away. They are thought to have transferred to a car.

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Churchills club to close, owner tells court

By Our Education Correspondent

Churchills, the London night club, is to close, Harry Meadows, the owner, told a jury at Knightsbridge Crown Court, London, yesterday: "We are aiming to close it down in view of what the police action has done. If you look at our business and our figures, you will see we are running a loss."

Mr Meadows, aged 63, and his son Andrew, aged 38, also a director of the club, both of Mayfair, have pleaded not guilty to living off the earnings of prostitutes working as Churchill's hostesses.

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Call for quick decision on bridge or tunnel

By Our Education Correspondent

From Our Correspondent Llandudno

The wrangle over whether a bridge or a tunnel should carry the A55 road across the river at the medieval town of Conwy may delay the project by up to three years, a conference was told at Llandudno yesterday.

Mr Hugh Davies, the Gwynedd county surveyor, said a decision was expected before the end of 1980 from the Welsh Office.

For a bridge the starting date would be 1983. For a tunnel the target date could be 1986.

The conference was called by the county council, the British Road Federation and the Confederation of British Industry in Wales to discuss faster progress in the scheme to make the A55 into a dual carriageway between Chester and Bangor.

Two MPs, Mr Dafydd Wigley (Plaid Cymru, Caernarvon) and Mr Keith Best (Conservative, Anglesey), spoke of the vital importance of the road to the economy of North Wales. Many delegates expressed fears about the next round of spending cuts.

spokesman said yesterday: "A summary of the findings is to be published but I am unable to say when."

Mr Bruce George, Labour MP for Walsall, South, who raised the matter in the Commons last summer, said yesterday that he had tabled a question about the inquiry's progress and was asking Mr Whitelaw to make a statement.

Mr Whitelaw had refused a request for an inquiry when Mr

£70,744 left by cottage murder woman

By Our Education Correspondent

It is a scandal that a measure that has crucial implications for the education and health of thousands of children is to be rushed through the Commons by the Government, the Child Poverty Action Group says in a statement issued today.

A guillotine motion is to be taken on the Education Bill this evening. That will limit the debate on the controversial clause giving local authorities freedom to charge what they like for school meals, milk and transport.

The group points out that even if the Government agrees to amend the Bill so as to place a clear duty on education authorities to provide free school meals for children in families dependent on supplementary benefit or family income supplement, 500,000 children still stand to lose their entitlement to a free meal.

It predicts that the planned big increases in school meal charges will lead to a huge drop in the numbers taking a meal. It is concerned that thousands of children just above the poverty line will go hungry or have inappropriate food at midday.

Mr Cooke, a smuggler of rare birds, was tracked down by the Canadian Mounted Police from a letter, Judge Sims, QC, was told at Leicester Crown Court yesterday.

Mr Cooke, aged 48, who was said to have operated from his home at Burling Avenue, Wigston Fields, Leicester, admitted six offences of illegally importing birds, one of exporting birds and another involving recklessly declaring an untrue document in regard to the import of rare birds. He was fined £200.

Mr Jeremy Roberts, for the prosecution, said that Mr Cooke, although well aware of restrictions introduced on January 1, 1976, did not apply for licences and chose to conceal the birds' identity by means of a bogus document. On the documents the value of the birds was very much reduced so as not to arouse suspicion.

Counsel said the six macaws included a pair of six macaws from Paraguay. There were thought to be only six pairs of the birds in the world and they were valued at £1,000 each.

Bus in collision

Fifteen passengers were taken to hospital yesterday after a London Transport double-deck bus was in collision with a lorry at Belvedere, Kent. No one was seriously injured.

Airlines to take over BA's rejected routes

Dan-Air Services has been granted a licence to operate flights between Bristol and Cardiff and Dublin and Paris, and between Newcastle upon Tyne and Dublin. The routes are among 26 being given up as uneconomic by British Airways.

The Civil Aviation Authority also announced yesterday that Air United Kingdom will take over the BA licence to operate on the Leeds and Bradford-Dublin route.

As an experiment the authority is to allow the Channel Islands carrier, Aldair, to fly limited charter services between the islands and Birmingham, Leeds and Bradford, Coventry, Exeter and Cardiff.

Review of last year's weather, page 21

Smuggler of rare birds jailed for six months

By Our Education Correspondent

Leicester

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Review of last year's weather, page 21

Adult literacy unit seeks project ideas

By Our Education Correspondent

A large part of the £500,000 government grant for the new Adult Literacy and Basic Skills Unit will be used to sponsor special projects in collaboration with local education authorities and voluntary organizations, the Adult Literacy Unit announced yesterday.

It invites applications from those with project ideas. The expected average cost of projects will be £10,000 a year, and the maximum sponsorship period will be two years.

Continued from page 1

Abortion was almost always wrong but only half of the other group felt so.

Speaking at a press conference in London yesterday, the Archbishop of Liverpool, the Most Rev Derek Worlock, said the church had cooperated with the survey and was glad to know the results.

It more or less confirmed what the bishops knew from their pastoral work. He was most concerned about the divorce aspect, but not surprised by it.

The church would have to take into account its membership's state of belief in the development of its teaching and would also have to study its teaching methods.

"It has to be remembered that the church is dealing primarily with revealed truths rather than with consensus or individual opinion," he said. Statistics can reveal attitudes to teaching, but cannot provide the expression or formulation of doctrinal truth."

Some of the results showed that people were becoming dissatisfied with the "conscience" approach to matters such as contraception and were beginning to find that approach "two-faced". There was a desire for norms of sexual conduct which people could happily accept.

The survey revealed a surprising degree of influence from the Catholic schools system on subsequent belief and practice.

Regional report

Ronald Faux

Glasgow

Steadily, repairs are being made. The Scottish Development Agency has spent £56.5m on righting old environmental wrongs and recently approved its one thousandth improvement scheme. They have ranged from small plots where the agency's signboard appeared

Bishop concerned at Catholic divorce views

Continued from page 1

The general profile of the Roman Catholicism that emerges is of a higher level of practice and belief than in any other denomination. It no longer reflects its Irish origins but penetrates all levels of class and all parts of the country and appears to be disproportionately attractive to the middle class, contrary to the traditional mixings.

Regular church-goers appear to be substantially more committed than the rest to good race relations and to help for poorer countries, two thirds of them being willing to accept a reduction in living standards as a result.

Roman Catholics appear to be well-disposed towards their leaders, with only the sexual-moral area signifying any unease, and generally to accept recent changes in the church resulting from the Second Vatican Council.

It is a population younger than the population at large, and the proportion of divorced Catholics, 3 per cent of the total, is not greatly different from that for the whole country.

Only a tiny minority (2.8 per cent) described themselves as regular visitors to the confessional, while one out of two of the whole sample, including lapsed Catholics, said that they prayed daily.

The Catholic population divides on political lines in the ratio of Labour to Conservative of 57 to 36, compared with 42 to 47 in the country at large at the last election.

Removing the warts from Scotland's industrial face

larger than the scheme itself to large reclamation projects costing several million pounds.

There was a fair measure of scepticism when the agency, an arm of government, announced that it was to repair those decades of neglect. The work began with

The Prado loses track of 300 paintings

From Harry Dobelius
Madrid, Jan 28

More than 300 paintings from the Prado Museum's collection have been given up as lost, the sub-director, Señor Alfonso Pérez Sánchez, said here today.

During a lecture at the museum, the sub-director said that an investigation had been ordered after Madrid newspapers had reported last year that a number of treasures assigned to the museum were missing.

The inquiries disclosed that about 500 paintings had disappeared in the century and a half of the Prado's existence, but that now almost all have been recovered, reducing the number of those missing to a little over 300.

Señor Pérez Sánchez added that the investigation ordered by the Justice Ministry was useful, because it had brought to light art which had been given on loan to civil and religious institutions, and had resulted in the photographing of all the art treasures that could be found.

Now we will be able to see exactly what we have and where it is," he said, "in order to plan what to do with it."

When the Prado took over the collection of Spain's Trinidad National Museum in 1872, it had 5,000 paintings and little space to display them. Instead, a policy of redistributing paintings on loan to civil and religious institutions was established.

There was never any question of what the pictures had gone," the sub-director claimed, "but problems arose when it came to finding out if they were still where they went. There were even cases in which the pictures were swapped from one embassy to another, without even advising the Prado Museum."

The Prado, which has an excess of pictures, does not intend to recall the paintings in the custody of other institutions, except for some of the more important works.

From Our Own Correspondent

Paris, Jan. 28

The French Communists' counter-offensive in defence of Soviet intervention in Afghanistan and Russia's "peace policy" generally continues unopposed, accompanied by paralytically violent attacks against the socialists.

They are not, not apparently embarrassed by the Sakharov affair which provides them with a chance of demonstrating, through mild criticism, that they are not concerned with life and soul to the Moscow line.

In fact, M Georges Marchais, the first secretary of the party, said on Radio Luxembourg quite early that if he had been in Moscow at the time of the Sakharov arrest, "I would have expressed my opposition to it. There would have been no joint communiqué. I would have flown back to Paris the following day."

Charles Delmas (and unlike Chaban-Delmas) I would have made a statement in Moscow."

M Jacques Chaban-Delmas, president of the National Assembly, cut short an official visit to the Soviet Union when the Soviet authorities took action against Dr Sakharov.

M Marchais described Dr Sakharov as a man of the right, but added: "His standpoint should be combated by the use of all legal and illegal methods, not by administrative measures." The United States, on the other hand, whose leaders had "blood on their hands", had the right to pose as the defender of the rights of man.

"We the Communists, the revolutionaries, are the champions of the rights of man", he insisted. "We condemned the period of the gulags. But we do not condemn the gulags to do about the Algerian war? We condemned practices contrary to

socialism and the rights of man, for they are not in the nature of socialism."

The Communist leader poured heavy scorn on M. Francois Mitterrand, the Socialist leader, with whom he has been involved in a violent semantic battle over nice things the Socialists are alleged to have said in 1973 about "the great contribution of the Soviet Union to international peace."

M Mitterrand accused M Marchais of lying. He added that M Marchais had not the means of banishing him to Gorky, but morally his behaviour amounted to the same thing. To this the Communist leader retorted that M Mitterrand was making himself ridiculous.

On another tack, M Marchais has revealed details of his personal wealth, in a letter replying to a question asked by 80 politicians by the news magazine *Le Point*.

His reply, published in today's *L'Humanite*, shows his gross income as amounting to 67,355 francs in 1972. His net wealth was 42,567 francs (£4,600). He rented a small house at Champigny, and had a car and chauffeur which went with the party responsibilities.

As for other assets, he had bought a house in Burgundy for 75,000 francs (£8,100), which he had knocked into shape. He had also inherited a small estate in Normandy from his mother.

He had no land, no stocks and shares, no bank account in Switzerland or abroad, no gold, old masters, jewels, collections, terms, yacht, or private aircraft.

French Communist leaders did not grow rich, he said in his reply. He asked why Presidents and Ministers should not appear in the list of the 80 personalities questioned.

as violence sport

Unfortunately, sport was sometimes distorted towards aims contrary to its nature.

Sport could be exploited, the Pope went on, and used to express hatred, rivalry, or revenge, transforming places of entertainment and joy into places of fear, terror and grief.

The teachings of the Church, he said, could help to prevent such things, the event which stained even sports grounds with blood in this time of violence.

Most of those present at the audience belonged to a foundation established in memory of a Lazio player who was killed as a result of a practical joke.

He went into a Rome jeweller's shop with one hand in his pocket, pretending to be a bandit, and the jeweller shot him dead.

expelled

dent Albert René, the Seychelles news agency said.

Disclosures made by M Chevalrey would enable Seychelles police to continue investigations, the agency added. The President last November accused M Chevalrey of involvement in a plot against his left-wing regime allegedly launched by Mr James Mancham, the former President, and Mr Adnan Khashoggi, a Saudi Arabian millionaire—Agence France Presse.

The actress Sophia Loren joins President Carter at the White House to launch a national appeal for prevention of child abuse.

obtained from the Committee of Theory and Publicity of the Central Committee of the party. The decision to efface the slogans coincides with the campaign made by the President, which seems to be an attempt to mollify the Muslim leaders who declared a holy war against the revolutionary regimes and the Russians. Beginning his broadcast "in the name of God, the Compassionate and Merciful," the President said he wanted to guarantee the freedom of the people to worship Islam. Any religious leaders who had fled the country could return without fear or persecution, provided that they "do not take any action against national or state interests."

The broadcast blamed the persecution of the mullahs on "the treacherous Amin and his criminal band" and says that some of the religious leaders were forced into exile where they were affected by "the enemy counter-revolutionary propaganda."

The tone of the broadcast is further evidence that the President and his Soviet advisors think it would be tactically wrong to continue the repression of Islam begun under Tarakki and continue with anti-violence by Amin. The declaration of the holy war, which succeeded in bringing some unity to the traditionally dissident tribesmen of Afghanistan, in large areas of the country the tribal chief has always been more powerful than the central Government and the start of the holy war these tribal chiefs started to cooperate.

It seems unlikely that the broadcast and the removal of slogans will change the Mullahs' minds as long as the Russians remain in Afghanistan. On the contrary, the chance of killing a Russian has intensified the holy war.

The most hardened and apparently irreligious tribesmen will tell you that Russians are communists and do not believe in any god; it is therefore God's will that they should all be killed.

Two or three of them were killed on Friday by a sniper firing at a convoy from a Kabul rooftop. The result has been a tightening of security here, especially at night, with checkpoints on the main roads out of the city.

From David Cross
Washington, Jan 27

Senator Edward Kennedy today sought to inject fresh momentum into his faltering presidential election campaign with a forceful attack on President Carter's foreign and domestic policies.

In a 50-minute speech delivered before a generally friendly audience at Georgetown University, Washington, the senator from Massachusetts accused Mr Carter of conducting a "policy of appeasement," exaggerating dangers and empty symbols "and a domestic policy based on Republican recipes."

But although his well-rehearsed speech was brightly delivered, and competently delivered, its contents, particularly in the foreign affairs section, failed to differentiate him clearly from the policies being pursued by the present Administration.

The only important exception was his categorical rejection of Mr Carter's plans to reinstitute registration for conscription.

As might be expected at a forum bringing together young people eligible for the draft, Mr Kennedy also greeted such sustained applause when he said he opposed registration "when it only means reams of computer print-outs that would be a paper curtain against Soviet troops."

The rest of his response to the twin crises in Iran and Afghanistan, and the "Carter doctrine" spelled out last week in the President's State of the Union message, criticized the Administration for three years of "inconsistent policy and certain crisis, of an inconsistent non-policy that may confront us with a stark choice between retreat and war."

Nevertheless, Mr Kennedy made it clear that he supported the main tenet of the Administration's policy to contain Soviet aggression.

American naval and air forces

in south-west Asia must be strengthened and support must be provided for America's allies in the region, Mr Kennedy said.

Moreover, America's friends and allies should join the United States in confronting "Soviet adventurism."

On Iran, Mr Kennedy went a little farther in public than Mr Carter has in calling for an international investigation of the alleged crimes of the exiled Shah to help secure the release of the 50 hostages still being held in the American Embassy in Tehran. The inquiry could be set up immediately and then begin its work once the hostages had been released, he suggested.

Mr Kennedy was on surer ground when he attacked President Carter for the country's grave economic problems.

"Under a Democratic Administration we have had three more years of Republican inflation, three more years of Republican interest rates and three more years of Republican economics," he said.

He called for the immediate adoption of a petrol rationing plan and the prompt introduction of "a six-month freeze on wages and salaries, on military controls, as long as necessary, across the board—not only on prices and wages, but also on profits, dividends, interest rates and rent."

The senator's main constituents are away from the trade unions and the disadvantaged and he acknowledged as much today. "The Carter doctrine," he said, "offers defence contractors a bright future of expansion and profit. But the more serious cases, the blue-collar workers, minorities, the victim of discrimination by race or sex or age—they all face the bleak prospect of higher taxes, higher interest rates, higher inflation."

Mr Kennedy's speech had been carefully prepared and rehearsed by Mr Kennedy and his staff. In the wake of last

From Michael Bunyon
Moscow, Jan 28

Dr Andrei Sakharov, the world-famous physicist, has lost his membership of the Soviet Academy of Sciences. A meeting of the presidium of the Academy today censured Dr Sakharov for actions directed against the interests of the Soviet Union, but made no suggestion that this membership be revoked.

Membership of the academy is the sole remaining benefit left to the nuclear physicist, whose honours and state awards were stripped from him last week. It entitles him to a regular income and a chauffeur-driven car.

An announcement this evening by Tass said that the presidium had noted that in spite of an earlier reprimand by the Academy Dr Sakharov "continues activities directed towards undermining the Soviet system, and thus constitutes a danger to the Soviet Union's policy of peace, the struggle to limit arms, relax international tensions, a policy which enjoys the support of Soviet scientists and all the Soviet people".

Tass added: "The presidium also noted the virtual absence of Sciences censured Academician Sakharov's actions directed against the interests of our country and the Soviet people."

Meanwhile, the Russians announced the name of the accused scientist as "a criminal," the Soviet Deputy Prime Minister, whose resignation was announced on the day that Dr Sakharov was banished. He is

Dr Gury Marchink, a mathematician and vice-president of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, who has become chairman of the Industrial State Committee for Science and Technology. Worse than jail: Dr Sakharov's wife, Yelena, returned Moscow today and said that the conditions under which he and his wife were held in internment exile were worse than those faced by many Soviet prison camp inmates.

She said a heart ailment that has afflicted her husband in the past has become aggravated by the strain of his forced move from Moscow to Gorky.

Her husband emphatically denied the series of allegations that Soviet authorities have published in the past week, claiming from Moscow in an attempt to justify his exile.

She said: "He never, at any time, gave anyone any state secrets involved with defence."

Mrs Sakharov told Western reporters that her husband

She said Dr Sakharov, a Nobel peace prize-winner, has been told that he may not telephone anyone outside the Soviet Union, and he cannot receive or write any letters abroad. Two of his stepchildren and his wife's sister-in-law in the United States are included in the ban. "Even those in prison camp can receive letters," she remarked.

Western press reports that the Soviet Government offered a choice by the Soviet authorities—expulsion to Vienna or exile to Gorky—were not true, she said.—UPI.

From Richard Wigg
Delhi, Jan 28

Anything leading to good relations at present between India and Pakistan would be a political development for peace and stability in the area, M Jean François-Poncet, the French Foreign Minister, said today.

He was commenting on yesterday's joint statement issued by President Giscard d'Estaing and Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, after their talks on the Afghanistan crisis.

M François-Poncet reiterated France's view that the Soviet troops should withdraw from Afghanistan and there must be some precision given as to when and how.

When asked if he considered it proper for arms to be supplied to Pakistan, he said that although France had deep reservations on disarmament even if the United Nations and the United Nations had the right to have enough arms to ensure its security.

Last night's joint statement was carefully referred to as "dangerous" arms build-up in sensitive regions.

Questioned on what role France thought China might play, M François-Poncet said he would be harmful for the people of the region if the block was formed, presumably reference to the Washington-Peking-Islamabad axis now talked about here.

From Own Own Correspondence
Washington, Jan. 28

Congressional support for a
American boycott of the summer
Olympics in Moscow in the
place of the Soviet interven-
tion in Afghanistan, was further
enhanced today when the Senate
foreign relations committee
came out unanimously in favour
of such a move.

After four hours of testimony
a resolution supporting Presi-
dent Carter's request for the
transfer, postponement or can-
cellation of the games was
approved by 14 votes to nil. The
resolution also called for a per-
manent site for the summer
Olympics in Greece where the
games started.

A large Senate majority is
in favour of the resolution is
expected.

Our Foreign Staff writes
Barring war or natural disaster
the summer games will stay in
Moscow, a source on the Inter-
national Olympic Committee
said in Switzerland.

"There are two possible
ibilities. Either the games take
place as scheduled in Moscow
or else they are cancelled. But
to cancel them, there would
have to be a situation of force
or a natural disaster. According
as a world war, a natural
disaster," the source said.

The Belgian Olympic Com-
mittee has decided not to boy-
cott the Moscow games.

Prime Minister Gandhi, the Indian
Prime Minister, said on radio
that India probably would not
part in the Moscow games.

By contrast, Mr. Matar-
Boubaid, the Prime Minister of
Morocco, declared that his coun-
try was "completely in agree-
ment with the IOC" according
to official reports from Gabon,
where he is on a visit.

The state-run Saudi press
agency said Bahrain had de-
cided to boycott the Moscow
games.

The President of Chile has
also announced a boycott.

ed that it was carried out by religious fanatics.

He added that Saudi Arabia and the other Saudi family members were in trouble and that he hoped they would not transfer these troubles to the Gulf.—*Reuters.*

No attempt

From Frank Vogl
US Economics Correspondent
Washington, Jan 28

Caught in the cross-winds of raging inflation and declining economic activity the President of the United States today proposed a budget that is unlikely to cause a significant effect on economic trends, but which could provoke political storms in this election year.

Mr Carter emphasized the need to boost military spending sharply and wisely increase production along with the nation's energy crisis in proposing record outlays of \$615,761 million (about £272,220m) for the 1981 fiscal year, which starts on October 1. The budget will result in an estimated deficit of \$15,731m.

The President has resisted the temptation to garner popularity by advocating tax cuts in this budget. At the same time he has accepted the failure of not keeping his often repeated promise to appoint a new auditor during his first term of office.

He claimed today that infla-

tion is the prime domestic problem and that proposing tax cuts now would add to inflationary pressures. The new budget, however, involving a deficit as large as the 1969 deficit, is expected to go more than 0.6 per cent of Gross National Product), will not strengthen general confidence in America's chances of securing price stability.

President Carter went to considerable lengths to convey the message to justify committing 24 per cent of total Government expenditure to national defence.

"I cannot ignore the major increases in Soviet military spending that have taken place inexorably over the past 20 years," he said. "I cannot ignore our commitment to the defence of mutual real increases in our investment in national defence. I cannot ignore the implications of terrorism in Iran, or Soviet aggression in Afghanistan," he said.

President Carter has had to face great pressure to restrain public spending in order to combat inflation, while at the

same time confronting demands for major spending increases for defence, energy, agriculture, unemployment assistance and foreign aid.

He has to keep everyone happy, he has had to display the skill of a contortionist and he claims that he has done well by meeting most demands and still holding real spending growth in just 9 per cent over the past year.

In attempting to counter those who will point to his failure to keep his budget balancing pledge the President emphasized that the deficit of just under \$16,000m is not only the lowest in seven years, but that it is full \$50,000m below the 1969 deficit budget in the first year.

The White House is deeply worried about this issue. Dr Charles Schultz, the President's chief economic adviser, joined the President's defence today by declaring that Government outlays rose in real terms by 30 per cent since 1960, 35 per cent in the 1960s and by 3.1 per cent in the first

seven years of the 1970s, but since President Carter has been in the White House the rise has been just 1.3 per cent and that "the rise for the 1981 fiscal year is just two-tenths of one per cent in real terms".

The detailed breakdown of the proposed spending of \$661.60m next year shows that 24 per cent, transfer and interest payments to individuals totalling 14 per cent, grants to States and local authorities totalling 15 per cent, interest payments and Government operations amounting together to 18 per cent.

On the revenue front the estimated income of \$660.00m is 15 per cent due to individual income tax, 12 per cent to corporate income tax, 10 per cent to corporate income taxes, with the remainder coming mainly from borrowing and excise taxes.

When all Government loan programme amounts are added to the budget, the total is \$1,000.00m.

borrowing demands in the 1981 fiscal year are likely to total \$33.900m compared to \$55.500m.

The budget figures are predicated on the assumption of a mild recession in the first half of this year, producing an overall average decline of 1.1 per cent in real terms for 1980. That will be followed by a sluggish recovery that will see real 1981 growth of 2.8 per cent. Unemployment is seen climbing by over 1.5 per cent during 1980, the easing about 7.5 per cent by the end of the year.

Among the massive volume of changes in detailed energy programmes in the new budget is one that directly results from the events last year at the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant.

When the White House said nuclear power programmes shift support from advanced reactor types such as the breeder reactor to increased efficiency and safety in existing nuclear plants.

Fashion

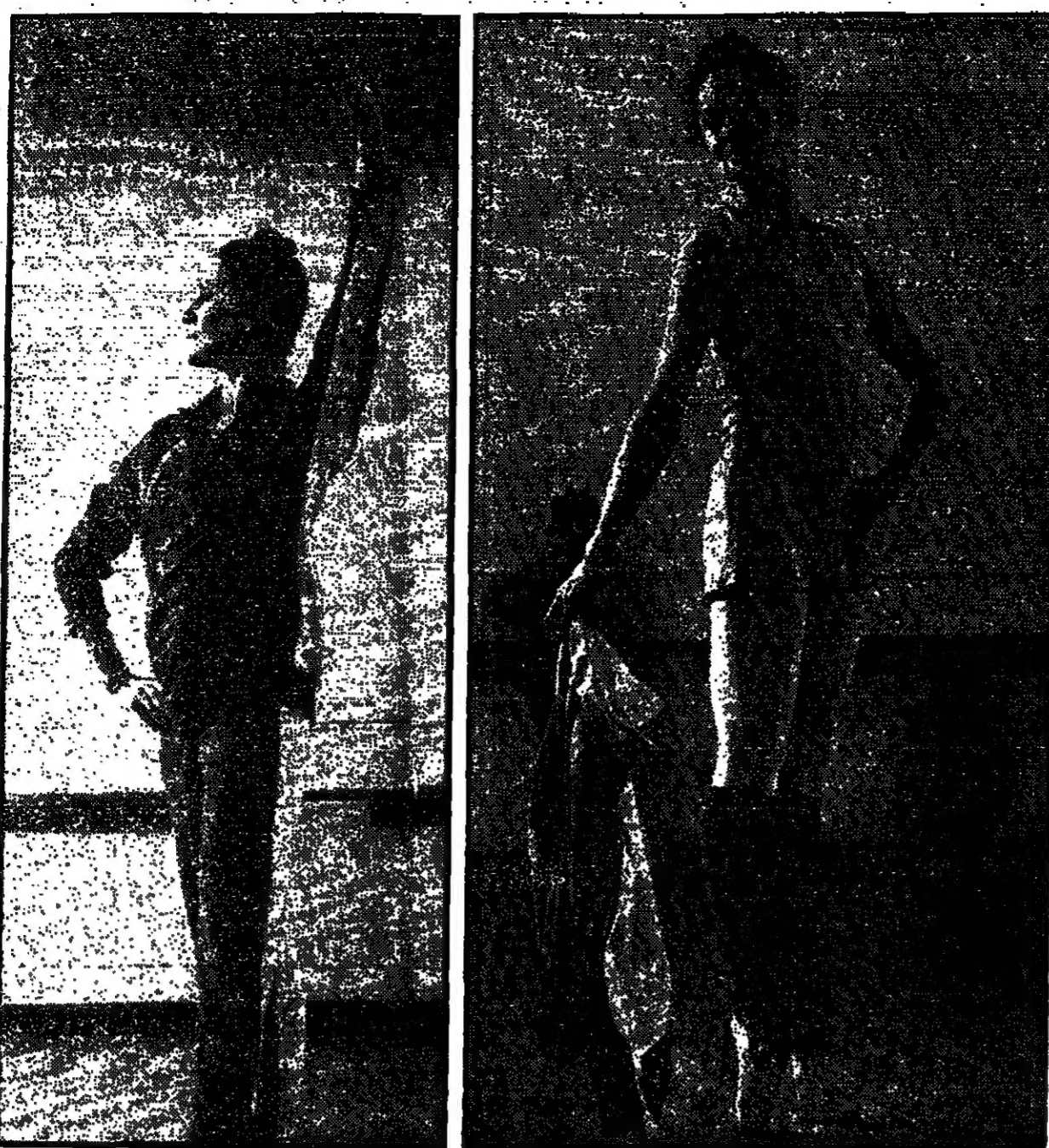
by
Prudence Glynn

■ Right: Vyvyan Lorraine, ex Royal Ballet and now hoping to establish a company of her own wears the newest outfits from the Dance Centre. Called Combo, they are what they seem, towelling trousers, tops, jackets etc all in combinations of brilliant contrast colours. There are also dresses and dressing robes to match. This suit is £38.90 by mail order also p and p 75p.

■ Far right: Silky Lycra shorts and top from the Dance Centre. £17.70 leg warmers £5.40 reversible jacket, towelling lined £44.60 all from The Dance Centre, 12 Floral Street, London, W.C.2.

■ Below and bottom: A chorus line at Pineapple, 7, Langley Street, London, W.C.2. All the clothes are available at their shop. Average prices £10 for an amazing assortment of body wear. Fashion moves into everyday life with the American Dream via cheap travel....

Photographs by Harry Kerr



"They can because they think they can" runs the caption to a photograph of two seagulls soaring through space. For my part, peering through the re-enforced glass doors (against crash-landings?) into the practice studio, I know that even had I been thinking ever since I wrote that tag I would not be able to do what they are doing in there. Indubitably earthbound, with not a Daedalus ambition to my makeup I observe a sea of lissome pulchritude kicking their heels up over their heads. If this is the keep fit class, whatever are the professionals like?

But this is not the keep fit class, this is the professionals, an audition no less for a TV commercial. Forty hopefuls, 14 needed, so at this sentence hard-line feminists who believe that for a woman to earn a living by her beauty and grace is degrading, should turn the page. Karen, Jackie, Sharon and Debbie with their multitude of accents seem very well content with their lot.

"See you tomorrow for the guard-dogs job" they call to me another when not invited "to stay". (no-one ever says they are out, it is all very positive) donning mothy fur coats over transparent Lycra body suits and grabbing a nourishing and healthy snack en route for the subterranean changing rooms.

Next door, through equally grand jock-proof glass, I see all is Degas and decorum. The fifth position comes easily to girls of my background, since it is the natural way of walking over the plough, but, even after another look at those seagulls and that "Virgil" I am not sure I could manage so much as a pike classical ballet lessons in your lunch hour. Grip bags behind the piano. Tomorrow Covent Garden... and rather more shapes one could identify with.

Pineapple Dance Centre Club at 7, Langley Street WC2, tel 01-836 4004 used to be a warehouse for the fruit of its name. Now it is a bustling rendezvous for those who want to get trim, stay trim, look younger, look better, feel better or get a job. To be a member costs only £10 a year, £5 for a child (visions of Shirley Temple) or £12 for a parent and child plus VAT. You can be a ballet beginner or a disco dazler so far as I can see. The cost for classes varies between £1 and £2 New in February will be gymnastic dance for children whose classes are sensibly put on a Saturday.

Around the corner from Pineapple is the Dance Centre, 12 Floral Street, WC2, tel 836 6544. The Dance Centre is indeed a true begueter of Pineapple, since the latter started up by popular demand when the former closed for redecoration and enlargement. The Dance Centre now has an oriental garden with pools, all very James Bond, a big-bright shop which sells everything from classic exercise dance clothes through to evening wear, purses and quilted jewelry. It is also a wholesale company, supplying shops all over the country. Cartons of summerbunds, leotards, Lycra shorts, tops, jackets etc all being tossed up the steps of the stockroom for delivery to the aching bodies of Britain who has at last cottoned-on to the fact that fashion today is



very much your body and who have been stretching and bending on their foam rubber exercise mats over since in an attempt to measure up to the revelations of modern fashion—no linings all those sheer fabrics, tight waists, and now the shorter skirt. No wonder the Dance Centre has a class in karate.

Fashion on this page is inalienable from beauty, both in the cosmetic and the health sense. I suspect a number of readers may associate the name Avon with those common ding-dong doorbells and I should blame myself for not having made more of a point—particularly to those who live out of town and who find the cost of travel however prohibitive—of the value and standards of the world's biggest cosmetic company. They are also the biggest suppliers of costume jewelry did come as a surprise

at the launch of their new range of cosmetics last week. The range is called Envira, which those of you who complete the crossword will immediately recognize as heavy with portent. Portentous it is, for a mass market product, for it is based on the research of eminent dermatologists, one of whom addressed the company which gathered snugly in the warmth of the hotel could probably scarcely remember the threat of which he talked, so long has it been since we saw him.

For it is Phoebe who when he gins arise strikes us down with anything from premature wrinkles to skin cancer. As a sun-worshiper I was horrified. As your beauty adviser I have to tell you that the Clean Air Act may have helped your lungs but it has exposed your skin to dangerous ultraviolet sun rays. As a cynic I should point out

that the new Avon range contains a specific sun-screen barrier so that if you actually get a glimpse of the chariot you may view it with impunity. As an admirer of good business practice I was interested by the introduction of the dermatologist in this country we tend to see anything which reeks of the cosmetic or the comfortable or even the cheering as faintly down-market from the serious business of medicine. A few spots command little of the overworked GP's time, so readers say.

It was not always so. For thousands of years the skin and its manifestations were the symptoms of the killer diseases, says Dr John Burton BSc, MD, FRCP Senior Lecturer in Dermatology at the University of Bristol. Every doctor knew his skin—he had to. Then, around the 1930s medicine conquered tuberculosis, syphilis, leprosy and other diseases which were manifest on the outside of the body. Dermatology declined, and declined further when in 1947, the National Health Service established its rates of pay for various consultants. Some areas were more profitable and more prestigious than others.

On the continent, and in America, no such distinction exists. Sympathy and profit go hand in hand, or should it be face to face. Finally as a consumer, I find the new Avon range very satisfactory. The foundations are smooth and well coloured, the lipsticks pretty and reliable and the mascara cry-proof.

So all in all when you hear the door bell go you might answer it, if only to pluck the Avon lady off her back and out of the snow when your Victorian wire bell-pull has come away in her hand.

ENTERTAINMENTS

Should such at all price to students and before performance

When telephoning use prefix 01 only. London telephone area.

OPERA AND BALLET

COVENT GARDEN 01-540 1066 (Garvey's Opera Centre 01-540 1066) Topical, 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **THE ROYAL BALLET** Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **ROYAL OPERA HOUSE** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **ROYAL OPERA HOUSE** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30.

CONCERTS

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL 01-540 1066 (Garvey's Opera Centre 01-540 1066) Topical, 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **THE ROYAL BALLET** Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **ROYAL OPERA HOUSE** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **ROYAL OPERA HOUSE** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30.

THEATRES

ADRIAN 01-540 1066 (Garvey's Opera Centre 01-540 1066) Topical, 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **MY FAIR LADY** Epps, 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **THE WORLD'S GREATEST MUSICAL** Epps, 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **THE WORLD'S GREATEST MUSICAL** Epps, 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **THE WORLD'S GREATEST MUSICAL** Epps, 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **THE WORLD'S GREATEST MUSICAL** Epps, 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30.

THEATRES

KINGS HEAD 01-540 1066 (Garvey's Opera Centre 01-540 1066) Topical, 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **THE ROYAL BALLET** Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **ROYAL OPERA HOUSE** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **ROYAL OPERA HOUSE** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30.

THEATRES

TALK OF THE TOWN, 01-734 5061. All-conditions. Credit card. From 8.00. Dining & dancing. 9.30. **THE BLACK ABOTTS** DANCING TILL 1 A.M.

CINEMAS

ABC 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. **THE ROYAL BALLET** Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **ROYAL OPERA HOUSE** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **ROYAL OPERA HOUSE** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30.

ART GALLERIES

AGNEW GALLERY, 41 Old Bond St. 01-540 1066 (Garvey's Opera Centre 01-540 1066) Topical, 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **THE ROYAL BALLET** Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **ROYAL OPERA HOUSE** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **ROYAL OPERA HOUSE** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30.

ETCHINGS AND LITHOGRAPHS

FROM GALLERY, 41 Old Bond St. 01-540 1066 (Garvey's Opera Centre 01-540 1066) Topical, 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **THE ROYAL BALLET** Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **ROYAL OPERA HOUSE** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **ROYAL OPERA HOUSE** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS

Piccadilly, London, W.1. 01-540 1066 (Garvey's Opera Centre 01-540 1066) Topical, 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **THE ROYAL BALLET** Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **ROYAL OPERA HOUSE** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. **ROYAL OPERA HOUSE** Verdi's *Macbeth*. 10.30, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30.

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مكازم الجاهل

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.

Bernard Levin

By definition, a word to the unwise

Father Dudko:
the flower of Russia's
'religious spring'

Father Dimitri Dudko's fame as a preacher rests on his readiness to apply Christian teaching to every problem which troubles Russians today—and in a land where the state sees itself as the all-sufficient provider, controversy is inevitable.

He spent eight and a half years in a labour camp and says: "I went in an unbeliever and in bad health. I came out a believer and in strong health". He achieved prominence through a series of "question-and-answer" sessions, unique for the Soviet Union, which he held in his Moscow church in 1973-74. State pressure quickly led to his being transferred outside the city.

In 1976, after recovering from a serious car accident in which there may have been KGB complicity, he was moved to Grebnevo, some miles from Moscow, where he was arrested on January 15. He is now in Lefortovo prison.

Here are some extracts from his preaching and conversations: "A religious spring has begun here. Its still weak, but it will come. I try to be with God, and I believe in victory. I believe with no doubts at all. If I perish physically because of this, the victory will just come more quickly."

"Question: Where do people believe better, in Russia or the West? Answer: Everyone wants people to believe better where he himself lives. I'm a Russian and I'd like to think the best of Russia. I know there are more believers in the West, but remembering Christ's words about the 'little flock' upon which He leans, I'd say that if you want to believe in Russia you've got to stand there next to Christ as He's nailed to the cross. In Russia today that's the only way you can believe. . . . Although there aren't so many believers in Russia, there are enough to hoist unbelieving Russia on to their shoulders and place it at the foot of Christ's cross."

Most of Father Dudko's preaching has an utter simplicity which is easy to scorn, until one actually tries to do as he says: "In order to follow Christ, one must first of all have a pure heart, without lusts and delusions. What lusts and delusions do we not have today?"

A person is offended with someone and cannot forgive him. He constantly seeks out ways to vex his enemy. Another looks for ways to drink, to deceive his wife and friends; he has lost his will. Another seems

to have an insignificant attachment—a tiny cigarette—but it has so subjugated him that he cannot live without it. . . . We must seek the Kingdom of God and his righteousness. . . . We should develop the spirit, by fasting and prayer. . . .

Atheism is officially propagated by every means in the USSR, while the Church can speak only within church buildings. But Father Dudko points out that: "It doesn't take much to become an atheist today. Master a few prepared phrases, swim with the current, and you're an atheist. On the other hand, to be a believer you have to know a lot. . . . You have to swim against the current. . . . Atheism is like an atom of evil undergoing fission. Moral, domestic and social disintegration results. People not only don't believe in God; they don't believe each other either. By undermining faith in God, atheism has also undermined all bases of social life. The destruction of churches in our country. . . . immorality, the collapse of the family, criminality and bohemianism—these are the fruits of atheism. . . . But I don't think this will go on much longer. . . . There are believers everywhere—among scholars, as well as the simple. . . . learned institutions, in workers' organizations, among party members and non-party people. During my priestly ministry I'm sure I've baptized at least 5,000 adults."

In almost every sermon Father Dudko refers to the key problems of Soviet society: the high divorce rate, widespread alcoholism, hooliganism and criminality among the young. His solution is a stable family life. He once said to a western visitor: "A concentration camp is not the worst thing that can happen. . . . In this sermon he continued: 'If they forbid me to preach from the pulpit, I'll speak from outside it. If they throw me in jail, I'll preach even there. The atheist can speak anywhere—in the newspapers, in films, in all the clubs. But we can't even speak in church?'"

Compiled by Jane Ellis and the staff of Keston College, Kent, which researches on religion in communist countries.

Quotations are from Our Hope (slightly adapted) by Father Dimitri Dudko, St Vladimir's Seminary Press, New York, 1977, a collection of sermons published by the Brotherhood of St Job of Pochaev, Montreal, and private sources.

You will scarcely believe this, but Mr Sholomovitz is still at it. Of course, if you don't know Mr Sholomovitz is, you will not know what is the it that he is at, so I had better explain, though you will find a comprehensive account of The Story So Far on pp 210-213 of my recently-published book, *Taking Sides*, Jonathan Cape, signed copies available from Times Special Offers, Selective Market Place, 18 Ogilby Street, London, W1, £6.50 post free, regret no reduction for quantity (advert).

Mr Sholomovitz has for years and years been campaigning against the inclusion in English dictionaries of derogatory definitions of the word "Jew". As any literate person will know, the word has been used, over the centuries, as a synonym for nouns such as "usurer" and "money-lender", and verbs such as "cheat" and "do down", and dictionaries have therefore included them, since a dictionary's function is to record words that exist, and not just words the existence of which causes no offence. This last point is the one that Mr Sholomovitz has been entirely unable to grasp; he has convinced himself that words which cause offence to people, over the centuries, have suffered from a great deal of offence, much of it by no means confined to the verbal variety, should be banned whether they are used or not. He argues that the preservation of the racial stereotypes by the use of these words helps to perpetuate also anti-semitic attitudes, and therefore that their exclusion from dictionaries will reduce the incidence of anti-semitism.

That, of course, is not only nonsense, but nonsense of a peculiarly modern kind. Anti-semitism is not caused by words (God knows—if, indeed, even He does—what it is caused by), and will not be cured by them, either, and much the same goes for the belief that sex discrimination will likewise be diminished by replacing such now offensive terms as "man" and "woman" by "person". It is not only nonsense, and peculiarly modern nonsense; it is peculiarly modern American nonsense. Such is the terror experienced by the American liberal establishment at the slightest clearing of the throat by any group sufficiently vociferous and well-organized to suggest publicly that the American liberal establishment is less liberal than it would like to be thought, that they have already reached a position in which committees exist to vet for propriety proposals for university research, lest someone might come up, for instance, with findings that support the work on matters of genetics and intelligence of social scientists like Professors Evenden and Shockley.

Gallop across, ye fiery-footed steeds; the same tendencies can be seen in this country (has anybody ever explained why it is that we always seem to borrow the worst of America, never her best?). And it is in the exploitation of one particular variety of the tendencies in question that Mr Sholomovitz has been indefatigable for so long. (I acquit him, of course, of any motive other than the one he professes: to diminish the amount and extent of cruel and unjustified opprobrium for his people—who are, after all, my people too.)

Mr Sholomovitz fought a notable battle with the OED, its Supplements and modern kind. Anti-semitism is not caused by words (God knows—if, indeed, even He does—what it is caused by), and will not be cured by them, either, and much the same goes for the belief that sex discrimination will likewise be diminished by replacing such now offensive terms as "man" and "woman" by "person". It is not only nonsense, and peculiarly modern nonsense; it is peculiarly modern American nonsense. Such is the terror experienced by the American liberal establishment at the slightest clearing of the throat by any group sufficiently vociferous and well-organized to suggest publicly that the American liberal establishment is less liberal than it would like to be thought, that they have already reached a position in which committees exist to vet for propriety proposals for university research, lest someone might come up, for instance, with findings that support the work on matters of genetics and intelligence of social scientists like Professors Evenden and Shockley.

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progeny, and a compromise, which I hailed as an admirable one in the column herebeforementioned, was reached: Big Daddy and his sons would retain the meanings that so offend Mr Sholomovitz and those who think like him (and incidentally you don't have to be a Jew to find anti-semitism disgusting and dangerous), but would signal clearly, with such references as "derogatory", "offensive" or the familiar "vulgar" that these uses, though they undoubtedly exist, should not be found on the lips or in the pens of any decent person. The OED, after all, omitted from its original edition all the nouns gross referring to the sexual and excretory functions, but time passed and they are now learnedly discussed in the Supplements. It is made clear on their behalf, too, that such words are not for polite society, and that should be enough for anybody.

But it is not enough for Mr Sholomovitz, who has gone on campaigning to have the offensive words removed from dictionaries altogether, and has now scored a notable, and in my opinion most lamentable, victory over Cassell's, which has removed them from the new edition of its English dictionary. (Cassell's is part of the American firm of Macmillan, though I am assured that the policy was not imposed on it.)

This really will not do. It is a fact that many people do use the word "Jew" in unqualifiedly pejorative meanings. Until that ceases to be a fact it seems to me a lexicographer's inescapable function to include such meanings. The duty of a dictionary, unlike that of a

treasure, or for that matter a newspaper column, is to record what is, not what is the opinion of the author ought to be, and that duty Cassell's seem to me to have failed in this instance to discharge.

And this matters—in my view it matters very much—for two reasons. The first is that, paradoxical though it may sound, this decision is part of the increasing impoverishment of our language—as, indeed, are such horrible neologisms as "chairperson" and "spokesperson". The use of the verb "to Jew", meaning to drive a hard bargain, is undoubtedly an offensive; at the same time it is an illustration, and a not entirely unimportant one, of a certain kind of demotic speech which is fast disappearing under the standardizing influences of television, bad newspapers, politicians and what now passes in this country for education.

You may say that this kind of usage is the bath-water, and no doubt it is; but there is no way, in the long run, of retaining the baby if we throw it out.

It is a sin against linguistic integrity; it is a crime against the language's health; but it is something else, much worse than either.

For where do we stop? If such words must be banned from dictionaries, should they not logically be banned from other books? Ought not Cassell's to scrutinize their novels, say, to see whether some low character is not talking in language that he will not find in Cassell's dictionary? And if you think that that is too fanciful an idea to be considered, consider this: there has already been a libel action in this

country, one of the most disgraceful in recent years (which is saying a very great deal indeed), in which an undoubtedly reputable charity sued a publisher for a reference by one of the characters in a novel which suggested that members of the organization in question were making money out of it. The character in the book was, and was clearly shown to be, insane; nonetheless, the charity brought suit, and the publisher did not even defend the case.

That built a slippery slope if anything ever did; not long afterwards a hotel and restaurant guide brought a similarly infamous case, again for a reference, manifestly meant to be regarded as absurd, which cast an unjustified slur on that firm's integrity. I do not know whether Mr Sholomovitz wants to censor novels as well as dictionaries, whether he would wish publishers to excise anti-semitic language in the mouths of anti-semitic fictional characters, and I do not know whether, if he would so wish, publishers would accede to his request. Until recently, I would have regarded any suggestion that they might as ludicrous. But until recently I would have regarded as no less ludicrous the suggestion that a reputable publishing house would accept such self-censorship as Cassell's has instituted on its *English Dictionary*. I hope no more British publishers will either down this slope, as I hope the Cassell's when it comes to a new edition, will think again. Mr Sholomovitz means well, without doubt; but, without doubt, he does ill.

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Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent, on the welfare aspect of the Army's role in Rhodesia

Setting up
a health service
in the bush

Dzapezi, Southern Rhodesia

Only a month ago Surgeon Lieutenant-Commander Paul Clarke was consultant physician at the Haslar naval hospital in Gosport, Hampshire. Today he operates from a tent at this isolated outpost near the border with Mozambique, the only qualified doctor thousands of sick Africans in the surrounding kraals have seen for several years.

His primary responsibility is the health of 50 British soldiers here at Foxroft assembly area, one of the 14 locations where 21,000 members of the Patriotic Front have gathered under the Lancaster House agreement in preparation for next month's elections.

In addition he has to ensure the overall health of the 6,000 members of the Zimbabwe National Liberation Army (Zanla) at this, the biggest of all the assembly areas.

But like all the doctors and medical assistants flown out by the Ministry of Defence with the Commonwealth monitoring group, he is finding himself increasingly involved in caring for thousands of Africans whose own clinics have closed down

one by one because of the fighting in Southern Rhodesia.

Every morning, before the January temperature reaches its midday peak of more than 100°F in the shade, more than 200 chattering patients queue up before his tent on the edge of the bush to confront him with a variety of cases not normally seen at Gosport.

Only one in four belongs to the Patriotic Front, whose members are by and large fit young men. Fewer still are British soldiers, who have been vaccinated against yellow fever, smallpox, cholera, tetanus and typhoid before leaving Britain and whose standards of hygiene in this hostile terrain are carefully monitored.

Most are mothers and children, and some have trekked 20 miles through the bush on hearing that a doctor is "in town".

There are about 50 cases of malaria a day to deal with, reflecting the virulence of the local mosquitoes. Other diseases include rubbery legs, bilharzia, phillips and scabies, and when it is so common among children that Lieutenant-Commander Clarke and his small team are



Captain Jonathan Bailey with an African patient. Photograph: Brian Harris.

planning to set up a special tent to deal with them.

So far cholera, which the doctors have dreaded most, has been kept away by assiduous purification of the water sup-

plies, coupled with a campaign to persuade the Patriotic Front camps to drink the water issued to them and no other.

The Army is already withdrawing some of its doctors because they are needed by their own battalions at home,

an expert in tropical medicine, as well as other members of the medical teams sent here.

The Army is already withdrawing some of its doctors because they are needed by their own battalions at home,

and the four doctors and nine medical orderlies supplied for the group by the Navy are under similar pressures.

Next week the International Red Cross starts to assume responsibility for the health of the Patriotic Front, with the help of helicopter-borne medical teams. Service doctors, however, who have been saddened by the lack of provision for the isolated African villages, doubt if the Red Cross can cope with the amount of work that needs to be done.

The answer must ultimately lie with the Rhodesian authorities, but progress in restoring the medical services lost during the war has so far been slow.

Not that the Forces assembly team of Irish Guards, Coldstream Guards and Royal Green Jackets, is a gloomy place.

The Zulu soldiers, as in other areas, are suspicious and unpredictable. But for most of the time, relations between the British and themselves are cordial enough.

Today they were playing football against each other on a hard dusty pitch, while hundreds of Zulu supporters ringing the sidelines clapped and cheered. So far the British have won one match and Zulu the other—which perhaps is just as well.

Foxroft is also unique in having a Zulu women's battalion of 300, living on its own in what passes for perfect propriety. The RAF recently delivered 300 pairs of frilly pink knickers for them, a gift which, the guardsmen say, was warmly received.

At the expense of research and the protection of industrial workers and consumers. There are also fears among scientists that they will be conspicuously exposed to prosecution.

Some veterinarians believe that whatever evolves in the way of new legislation for both livestock production and animal experimentation, animals should have access to veterinary cover. They would like to see some provision for greater veterinary care and supervision.

While few would dispute that the attitude and training of the veterinarian is the best for this particular purpose, the veterinary profession is likely to meet opposition if it tries to expand its role beyond what others believe to be its qualifications. In the field of ethics, and on questions relating to the justification of experimentation of experiments, there is a great body of experienced non-veterinary opinion.

Dr R. F. W. Goodwin
Veterinary Correspondent

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Mr Speaker
and a
touch of silk

The talk at Westminster is that Mr George Thomas, Speaker of the House of Commons, will be hanging up his black silk stockings and silver-buckled shoes in July. And so will end 15 years of Methodist grip on the office of Speaker. (Incidentally, penurious *hapus*/happy birthday to Mr Thomas, the pride of Tonypantry, who is 71 today, and has been in the Commons since 1945 and Speaker for four years.)

The front runner in the succession stakes is Mr Bernard Weatherill, Conservative MP for Croydon North-east, and deputy Speaker. He has been a successful whip and has been a popular choice for the £19,650 a year umpire's job.

Mr Weatherill, who is 59, is a master tailor by profession. He has been known, when in playful mood, to rub a colleague's suit lapel between thumb and forefinger, to test the quality of the cloth. In his time he has been a mobilizer

of the British Poujadist vote, a doughy fighter on behalf of small businessmen.

Probably the Speaker's eighteenth-century court dress, patent leather shoes, stockings gripped by garters, knee breeches, long gown and full-bottomed wig, will feel strange on a man brought up with well-cut gentlemen's suiting.

But with his connexions he should have no difficulty in obtaining the black silk stockings of the calling. Some years ago there was a crisis when black silk hose could not be had for love or money and, with parliamentary dignity at stake, the Speaker at the time had to make do with ladies' black nylon tights, size outside. I can only assume that Mr Speaker's shanks are once more graced with silk.

July will be a good time for Mr Thomas to go. It will be the end of a hard stint and everyone in the House will be feeling relieved and happy at the prospect of three months' holiday. And they will be in good mood to give Mr Thomas the affectionate send-off and handsome tribute he deserves. I know he will miss his role at the centre of the incivility

he adores. But for a man who is naturally outspoken and exuberant, with the gift of repartee, the Speaker's chair must have been a considerable discipline at times. Perhaps in the Lords we will be hearing



more of those Rhonda-rich tones as the man once billed in the old *Empire News* as "George Thomas, champion of the underdog" says a lot more than "Order, order".

Why Ms is cast out

A wider audience should know that *The Times* is making an historic stand on a matter of public interest. As now announced in a supplement to *The Times* style book, that forlorn fatherless and motherless little word Ms is cast into the lexicographical outer darkness.

Our style book is a small blue volume which guides us in our daily grappling with the language. I dare say some of my colleagues read a comforting page or two at bedtime. Indeed, it is such an interesting little book that I would not be surprised if it had some commercial potential.

The latest supplement to it tells us that the right way to spell Rumania is Romania; that the term common law wife has no meaning in English law and should be avoided; that we should take care in the use of

the word girl (sloppy sexist use upsets); that the word staggering may be applied only to drunkards; that we must not write China Trade because it reminds the Chinese of the days when we were busy selling them opium.

But to return to the first point. The style book says that Ms is not an acceptable substitute for Miss or Mrs (except in certain special circumstances).

This is a rallying point for common sense. There are several reasons why Ms should be allowed no air. It is artificial, ugly, silly, means nothing and is rotten English. It is a faded middle-class plaything; and far from disguising the marital status of women, as is claimed, it draws attention to it. It is a vanity.

But, worst of all, those who stamp their petulant feet and insist on its use have lost sight of the ball. There is an important battle to be fought for all women, not just a tiny elite and while the Msers are straining at girths the struggle is elsewhere. Like chess, person, and the dotty battle for the dubious "right" to stand next to plump lawyers in El Vino,

Ms is one of the excesses of the revolution and should be junked. Such puffed-up inconsequential will only end in tears.

That's torn it, I suppose. But in the end I can't be too hard on *les belles femmes*, even those who rail liberally. Underneath they're all lovable.

From Brussels, a charming handout extolling the virtues of bikes and mopeds: "The invention of the two wheeler has been offering us plenty of joyful hours which he still reminds today. Even in the age of Concorde the bike remains the little queen, the secret of eternal youth. We mention the moped with open frame, sometimes being called the automatic moped. Police corpses of many big towns have chosen it. Reparation costs are low and it is a silent driver. It's easier learning how to drive because it doesn't go zigzagging as motorizing school proprietors state. Dangerous? Less than a bike. . . . the brokes are more efficient. A moped is as truehearted as a dog, as sober as a camel."

Trevor Fishlock



New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234.

COULD HE HAVE DONE LESS?

Just over three years ago President Carter took office pledged to cut defence spending by \$5,000m and to work for the elimination of all nuclear weapons from this earth. The previous Administration left him a defence budget for the fiscal year 1977-78 with an increase of \$12,200m. Simultaneously the CIA released estimates that the defence budget would have to be increased by about a third to match the Soviet Union in arms and men. On the other hand Dr Kissinger, the outgoing Secretary of State, had just been criticizing "alarmists" for what he called their meaningless insistence on supremacy. "I do not believe the Soviet Union is achieving military supremacy over the United States," he said.

Mr Carter could be forgiven for a certain amount of confusion. The whole Washington establishment was divided and remanded divided for some time over the size and nature of the Soviet threat and the level at which the United States should feel itself adequately armed. Many still hoped that the Soviet Union would show signs of slowing down when it had reached reasonable equivalence, especially under the beneficent influence of agreements on arms control.

Yet Mr Carter did not wait long to modify his early hopes. A month after taking office he cut only \$2,700m from the defence budget, and later the same year he joined his NATO allies in pledging an annual increase of three per cent in real terms. Over the past two years he has met that commitment. The stiffening of American defence effort after a period of

relative decline is, therefore, not just the result of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. It was getting slowly under way before that because of growing awareness of the steady growth of Soviet power over many years.

Nevertheless, additional impetus has now come from the new situation. The budget proposals announced yesterday mark a qualitative as well as a quantitative change. Not only will real outlays increase by an average of 3.8 per cent a year in 1981 and 1982 but there is evidence of a more thorough examination of what the United States needs to do in the way of improving its capabilities. On the strategic level the new MX missile will, when it eventually becomes operational in 1986, meet the relatively recent Soviet ability to knock out most existing American land-based missiles in a single strike. In Europe the modernization of theatre nuclear weapons will go ahead, and the budget will also provide funds for storing additional equipment "to make possible a more rapid force build-up there".

Probably the most politically significant change is the new urgency being given to the development of rapid deployment forces which will restore American ability to send forces quickly to any part of the globe. These plans, too, were under way before the invasion of Afghanistan but they now seem likely to receive higher priority and more political support. They symbolize a turning point in the United States view of its role in the world. When President Johnson tried to set up a similar force in 1967 he was criticized by Senator Richard Russell, a "hawk" if

ever there was one, on the grounds that it would create an impression "that the United States has assumed the function of policing the world and that it can be thought to be at least considering intervention in any kind of strife or commotion occurring in any of the nations of the world". As the Vietnam war drew to its disastrous end, the feeling grew that the United States should refrain from practically all military involvement abroad except in Europe. In 1971 a public opinion poll found only eleven per cent in favour of increasing the defence budget. Mr Carter responded to this mood in his election campaign, and even promised to withdraw American troops from South Korea.

Last October a poll found sixty per cent in favour of higher defence spending, and Congress seems unlikely to raise a murmur against the new budget, including the rapid deployment force. So profound is the change of mood. It is not just that the Americans have forgotten Vietnam. The most obvious reason for the change is the clearer knowledge that for the past decade the Soviet Union has been increasing its real spending on defence by 4.5 per cent a year and allocating some 11-13 per cent of its gnp to the same purpose, even though its economic growth is slowing and its people suffering increasing shortages. Put that together with the build-up of tanks and new rockets in the European theatre, the massive submarine programme, the extent of Soviet military aid to third world countries, the use of Cuban troops in Africa, and now the massive invasion of Afghanistan, and Mr Carter's response seems not excessive but merely adequate.

Right of silence in Scotland

From the President of the Glasgow Bar Association

Sir, Your edition of Wednesday January 16, contains a report on the second reading in the House of Lords of the new Criminal Justice (Scotland) Bill.

The summary of the report appears to indicate that the Bill arises out of the recommendations of the Thomson Committee on Criminal Procedure which sat in Scotland for some years. In fact, the Bill contains recommendations from no less than five select committees, namely the Thomson Committee, the Ennis Committee, the Dunpark Committee, the McElhiney Working Party and the Bryden Committee.

The incorporation of recommendations from so many committees in one Bill (arguably the most important piece of legislation on matters criminal in Scotland this century) causes justifiable concern. That concern—despite the reported remarks of Lord Mansfield—is vociferous but by no means misguided.

It is much more misguided to suggest that the right of silence is preserved in the Bill. A person detained by the police has at the most a limited right of silence. The Bill however specifically provides that a person arrested subsequent to detention and brought before a court may, at the instance of the procurator fiscal, undergo judicial examination, at which his solicitor may be present but which—in present format—the solicitor has no right of audience. Questions however may be asked by "the court" but significantly the right to remain silent in the face of such questions may be commented on at a future date by both a procurator fiscal and/or the court. Thus the right of silence can no longer be exercised at what is arguably the most important point, namely the appearance of an accused person in court to answer a specific charge.

With this railing of the right of silence, there has arrived—surely a major step towards the undermining of the presumption of innocence, for if the accused must answer then he must be presumed to have information relevant and pertinent—indeed necessary—to the judicial enquiry.

Detention itself, it is claimed, follows recommendations by the Thomson Committee. That is a half truth. Thomson suggested a period within which a person, not yet charged, could be detained within a police station for a period not exceeding six hours. Thomson specifically added the rider that questions to and answers by such detainees during such detention should be tape recorded and, indeed, went so far as to suggest that the kind of tape recordings seen by the committee were practicable, economic, and necessary.

Many of the underlying assumptions in the Bill—for example, identification of suspects by police officers—require much further discussion than, with the best will in the world, is capable within a busy parliamentary term. Yours faithfully, DESMOND QUINN, President, Glasgow Bar Association, 216 Bath Street, Glasgow, January 22.

Race in the 1981 Census

From Professor John Rex

Sir, My colleagues in the social sciences, as well as those who are concerned to promote good race relations, seem in the majority to have reached the conclusion that they want an ethnic question of some kind in the 1981 census. One particularly close to this problem, explain briefly my own reluctance to give them my support.

First, I am least of all convinced of the suggestion by some members of the executive of the Social Research Association that we should have a colour question. I am amazed that no one seems to have realized that Indians and Pakistanis either could not or would not answer such a question. If moreover, the census were to be merely confused by the data. There is already a marked difference between the characteristics of Asians and West Indian descended people and this difference is only likely to increase. Conclusions about blacks or non-whites therefore would be gravely misleading.

If, however, we have an ethnic question, who will benefit from the data collected? I do not read the history of the census and statistics the way that Mrs Cheetham does. The benefit which immigrants have had from statistics has been confined largely to help on technical matters like language instruction. Otherwise, the presence of immigrants has been used as an index of pathology, justifying increased payments to particular local authorities, who have all too often used such increased payments for the benefit of their native British citizens. On the other hand the statistics have been extensively used in propaganda campaigns against black immigrants. Such campaigns are only likely to increase the number of "Asians" and "West Indians" appear to have doubled as we count in their British children.

If we are to have an ethnic question, I would make two points. One is that the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys should be forced to have discussions with representative minority leaders outside Harrogate and with those with some experience of race relations research. The other is that when the data is collected, members of the Commission for Racial Equality and related bodies should be militant in their campaigns against minority disadvantage rather than holding back as they have done, especially in the sphere of housing, from holding investigations for fear that the 1976 Act will be revoked.

Yours faithfully, JOHN REX, Director, Research Unit on Ethnic Relations, The University of Aston in Birmingham, St Peter's College, College Road, Salford, Salford, Birmingham.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Cuts in personal social services

From The Bishop of Coventry

Sir, Mr Stacey (The Times, January 23) makes us painfully aware of the dilemma facing local councils as they receive advice from the Government both to cut expenditure and to protect services for the most vulnerable. The Government has made it clear on several occasions that services to protect those who cannot look after themselves are to be spared the worst of the consequences of necessary reductions in public expenditure.

At the same time the Treasury forecasts of public expenditure, published towards the end of last year in any other area of public expenditure in spending by local councils on their services for children, the old, the sick and the handicapped, of more than 7 per cent; a greater reduction than is being sought in any other area of public expenditure. It does begin to look as though the advice from the Government is inconsistent and self-contradictory.

Faced with the need for cutting public expenditure it is suggested that one answer is for people to stop relying on the state and take more responsibility for themselves and their families. I am all for the acceptance of responsibility but I do not think the majority of people are in need of this advice. Proportionately fewer handicapped and old people are now living in institutions than was the case 30 years ago.

Most people are not seeking about their elderly relatives and neighbours. I understand that less than 20 in every thousand people over 65 live in homes for the elderly. We face mounting problems for the elderly, but the quality of life in the elderly is advancing in health care give us all a greater expectancy of life. Of what value is that if it condemns us to spend the last years of our life in misery and loneliness?

Because of changes in our society people are encouraged to be more mobile and to be prepared to move to distant parts of the country for good economic reasons. It is this kind of consideration which tends to disrupt extended family ties and makes caring for the elderly difficult. Most families with mentally or physically handicapped children want to avoid their permanent hospitalization and in some cases this is possible if the most basic services are extended to the family and a little help. I know many parents in my diocese who make great sacrifices to keep their handicapped children within the family.

The suggestion, therefore, that people should be more self-reliant is not the answer. The kind of compensation where it is most needed, the systems of state support for the needy and vulnerable do not mean we have abdicated our responsibilities. On the contrary, public services of this kind are the real expression of that responsibility.

If we take satisfaction in seeing a reduction in publicly financed services of the kind for which Mr Stacey and his colleagues provide on our behalf it can only mean we are moving to a more selfish and

uncaring society: a tendency which I would deplore. It is in a situation of economic stringency that we are really tested concerning our priorities in compassion.

Yours faithfully, JOHN COVENTRY, The Bishop's House, Davenport Road, Coventry.

From Mr R. Hurst

Sir, The proposals contained in the Government's Social Security Bill, to defer the payment of Supplementary Benefit to school and college leavers under the age of 19 who are registering for employment, has very serious social and economic consequences.

So far as young people are concerned and especially those school leavers with few examination qualifications, it is simply not true, as the Secretary of State for Social Services told the House of Commons on December 20, that "in many parts of the country there are jobs available". To also imply, as the Minister did to the House, that young people should be "mobile" and take the jobs that are on offer reflects a total ignorance of the special difficulties facing the least qualified youngsters, many of whom come from low earning households where this particular proposal will hit hardest.

The Minister's attitude is also worrying in that it fails to appreciate the social problems associated with young people aged 16 and 17 leaving home at that age to seek employment, say, in London and the South East which at present has 59 per cent of total notified vacancies for young people (with 15 per cent of total youth unemployment), compared with 13 per cent of total vacancies in the combined North West, North, Wales and Scotland regions, which have 48 per cent of youth unemployment.

In no part of the country at present is it easy for the least qualified and handicapped young person to obtain employment—hence the reason why there are now over 100,000 young people, not shown in unemployment statistics, who are engaged in the Youth Opportunities Programme. There is too much obsession with "work shyness" and alleged abuse of the supplementary benefit system by young people. There needs to be a more objective recognition of the very real social and economic problems facing school leavers in the hardest hit regions.

The Government should reexamine this particular proposal in the Bill. It should also examine Home Office evidence linking juvenile crime with unemployment. What is going to be the position when we have many thousands of independently minded school leavers (young adults) genuinely seeking work but who have no real skills of their own will be facing unemployment without direct financial support?

Yours faithfully, R. HURST, 39 Corporation Road, Redcar, Cleveland.

Speculation about spies

From Mr Robert Cecil

Sir, The controversy about Philby & Co pursues its unsatisfactory course; the phase of denunciation has now been followed by the phase of exculpation. In the process the names of former public servants are freely bandied about, causing pain without doing much to elucidate what happened.

The origin of all this speculation lies in the refusal of successive governments to issue an authoritative and comprehensive statement. Such a statement must contain the names of those living and dead, against whom there is incontrovertible evidence of disloyalty, including those (if any) to whom immunity has been granted, as it has been to Blunt. This statement could then be taken as a declaration of the innocence of all not named.

Unless this is done, speculation—profitable to some; odious to others—will continue. This is inevitable.

Changes at the V & A

From the Director of the Victoria and Albert Museum

Sir, I feel that Mr Lumley's letter (January 26) concerning the Victoria and Albert Museum's Primary Galleries is misinformed. They are not as static as he suggests, but an arrangement which was inaugurated 30 years ago by my predecessor Sir Leigh Ashton in the aftermath of the Second World War. At the time they were a brilliant and successful experiment. Since then there has been an ad hoc rearrangement and they have become increasingly shabby.

The most serious objection to them, however, is that they come to an end in 1990. The V & A is about this century as much as any other. Magnificent items from the great nineteenth-century exhibitions and of art movements will return from Bethan Green Museum and the Frank Lloyd Wright room and the

because: (1) uncertainty exists whether immunity has been granted to others, in addition to Blunt; (2) the latter's statements and the course of events make it clear that he must have been informed immediately after the decision to interrogate Maclean had been taken at the highest level in the Foreign Office. This decision could only have been communicated to Blunt, who no longer has any formal connection with the V & A.

Mr Lumley, by some very senior official in the FO, MIS or MIE. It does not follow that this informant was a traitor; but if he was not, he was at the least guilty of a deplorable indiscretion. Surely now, nearly 30 years after these events occurred, there can be no valid excuse on security grounds for the persistent refusal to issue a full statement and so put an end to the controversy? I am, Sir, yours etc, ROBERT CECIL, Hambleton, Hampshire, January 24.

Strand Palace Foyer, which are now in force will be put on display. Our duty lies in presenting to the British public and to the visitor from abroad a panorama of our greatest achievements in the decorative arts from Tudor times to the present day. Not only the technique of display is greatly altered but also what the public expects from such an exhibition.

Following in the wake of the Minister's call for private sponsorship of the arts, we look to raising a large sum to carry through this development over a period of several years. At no time during the project will our greatest treasures be withdrawn from view. The V & A cannot remain static and the changes are being made in response to the pressing demands of students, designers, the art trade and the general museum visitor.

Yours faithfully, ROY STONE, Director, Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington, SW7.

Care of mental patients

From Miss Mary Appleby

Sir, I find it impossible to accept the implication in Mr van Straubenzee's letter (January 11) that groups interested in the welfare of patients in mental hospitals make irresponsible allegations of ill-treatment against the staff of such hospitals in order to raise funds and pay their own salaries.

It is reassuring that the inquiry at Church Hill House Hospital found no substance in rumors of ill-treatment there. But what about the Farleigh inquiry, the Whittingham inquiry and the inquiry at St Augustine's Hospital, to name but a few?

Certainly while there exists a situation in which too few staff are being asked to care for too many patients, the role of interest groups is to draw attention to these conditions and to seek improvements. But their prime responsibility is to the patient, come to no harm. Harm, in this day and age, is not simply that there may be physical coercion, but that over-pressed staff may be tempted to use the great technical advances open to psychiatry to manage patients rather than to treat them.

If there were no interest groups to keep a watchful eye on developments such as these, I for one should feel that patients were very much more at risk than at present the case. Equally, when money is short, I doubt whether the psychiatric services would get as much of the financial cake in the National Health Service as they do, were it not for the continual badgering of the interest groups.

To suggest that the work of these bodies is motivated by self-interest does them a grave injustice: an injustice not only to the staff, but to the hundreds of volunteers, professional and lay, who give their services to the cause of helping the mentally distressed.

Yours faithfully, MARY APPLEBY, 18 Woodfall Street, Chelsea, SW3.

A boycott of the Olympic Games

From Mr A. G. K. Brown

Sir, After competing in the Olympic Games of 1936 I wrote an article in an undergraduate magazine which made me very unpopular in some quarters. My conviction was that the Games had been used to glorify the ideals and achievements of a regime of which I disapproved, and that they were part of the process that persuaded so many decent German people that Hitler was a great and good man. (Incidentally, he behaved very well during the course of the Games, and in my view there is no foundation for the stories that he is now popular. If he showed his disappointment in the result of the 100 metres it was not because Jesse Owens won, which would scarcely have surprised him, but because the German champion Borchmeyer failed to win a medal.)

It was this atmosphere of disgust, and the fact that I was a Jew, which made me make the Berlin Games unhappy to compete in, and I am surprised that so many of the present Olympic "possibles" seem to look forward to competing in similar circumstances in Moscow. Surely it will be difficult for any athlete who is sensible of these things to perform happily and at his best.

The IOC must be blamed for bringing about a situation in which athletes will once again be used for propaganda purposes. I support the Marquis of Exeter in maintaining that politics should be kept out of the Games, but I fail to understand how he can support their being staged in a country whose prevailing philosophy says that everything is political.

Yours faithfully, A. G. K. BROWN, Clifton upon Teme, Worcester, January 25.

From Professor Ian Finlay

Sir, May I through your columns inquire if it is not the case that fostering of higher standards in sport is heavily subsidized by the taxpayer? If it is, the Olympian attitude to politics professed by some Olympic officials, and by some prominent sportsmen, is monumental humbug.

Also, they appear to be conveniently blinkered against the full implications of the Olympic ceremony, which requires the prerequisite of peace, as many of the Chinese among them have pointed out.

The basic truth is that sport has long ceased to be sport and has become another vested interest in a world indifferent to ethics. If sport is to count for anything again, we must think less in terms of Olympic medals than of the pat on the back on the village green.

Yours faithfully, IAN FINLAY, Currie Riggs, 3 Newmill Road, Barnmo, Edinburgh, January 23.

Forming a centre party

From Mr R. Symm-Crampton

Sir, May I congratulate you on your leader of January 17, and its general features?

At the moment, as I feel sure must be the case of so many of the electorate, I am disenfranchised. As a former Tory of the Middle Way, I deplore the laissez faire economics of the present Government and, particularly, its lack of compassion for the sick, the disabled and unemployed. This is shown by the present Administration's intention to end the inflation-proofing of the social benefits given to those I have mentioned—with the possibility of ending the "proofing" for public service pensioners. The former sections of society are easily attacked, as they lack the power and influence of the rich and the unions to fight back. Add to all this the proposed cruel rises in gas and electricity which will hit hard those people I have mentioned.

I cannot vote Labour while the extreme Leftists within hold such power. As to the Liberals, I am afraid some of their Members of Parliament are rather more like third class comic turns than the socialist "leaders" they have made (I of course exclude David Steel and Jo Grimond).

Because I feel that my views must be shared by so many others (as the ORC Poll-report, January 17, would suggest), I feel now is the time to form a centre party and not wait until democracy itself is in real peril. If a real leader would now emerge, I feel sure that our efforts would find for such a party.

Yours faithfully, R. SYMM-CRAMPTON, Flat 4, 7 Alexandra Villas, Brighton, Sussex, January 18.

Morning television

From Mrs M. Brook

Sir, Weekday mornings in a family, which involve getting children up and off to school, providing dinner, money, missing books, ensuring that lights are switched off, that the cat is fed and that the doors are locked, that the car will start and so on, are probably the most stressful of the day. How many adults and how many children are unproductive during the first one or two working hours because of cross words and tension generated before leaving the house?

And now it is proposed to introduce another stress-inducing factor: a factor that is far less capable of being ignored than the radio. The advertiser may benefit but I doubt, in real terms, whether the British family will.

Unlike America we have already radio programmes that offer just the sort of thing that is suggested for morning television. For whose benefit is this development? Yours faithfully, MURIEL BROOK, Saxtonholme, Oreston Lane, Eppingham, Surrey, January 25.

THE NEW PRESIDENT OF IRAN

The election of Mr Abolhassan Bani-Sadr as President of Iran, and the overwhelming majority of votes that he received, have given a new look to the Iranian situation. It is true that the President's powers are restricted, not least by the need to keep in step with the Ayatollah Khomeini. But the size of Mr Bani-Sadr's victory means that he has emerged as a political figure in his own right, and it will now be up to him to see how far he can get his own way on the turbulent Iranian scene. He has already made it clear that he is opposed to the existence of parallel power centres such as the militants holding the hostages in the American embassy. The hope must be that, with tact and good sense on all sides, some way can be found of persuading the militants that it is no longer in the interests of Iran to continue holding the hostages.

It will not be easy. Previous attempts by Mr Bani-Sadr to persuade the militants that it was against the teaching of the Koran to hold foreign diplomats in this way, and that it was damaging Iran's image abroad, were unsuccessful. The militants still have a great deal of public support, even though it has dropped off lately. But it must be clear by now to many Iranians that the Americans will not agree to return the Shah to face trial in Iran and that, however passionately felt their grievances against the United States may be, this is

not the best way to pursue them. Mr Bani-Sadr himself has made no secret for a long time that this was his view. It is by no means impossible that the Ayatollah Khomeini might be brought to accept it, and that he would then use his authority to persuade the militants to accept a face-saving solution.

The election results showed how much support there is in Iran for the mixture of nationalism, radicalism and Islamic fervour represented by Mr Bani-Sadr. It is true that things were made easy for him by the elimination of the progressive Islamic candidate, Mr Massoud Rajavi, on the grounds that he had not supported the new constitution and could not therefore hold the office of president under it; and that Mr Hassan Habibi, the candidate of the pro-clerical Islamic Republican Party, was not the party's first choice. But Mr Bani-Sadr had a convincing win over both Mr Habibi and Admiral Ahmad Madani, the candidate of the middle class and of many Iranians who were not happy to see the Shah go. He achieved this through his identification with the Ayatollah Khomeini, his known opposition to the Shah, and the promise he held out of better conditions of life under a new system.

Much is going to depend on how he tackles the enormous problems that confront Iran—the collapse of the economy and the threat of fragmentation. A possibility is that, as a close

associate of the Ayatollah Khomeini, he will be given a fairly free hand, and that the Ayatollah will only intervene if he sees something with which he disagrees strongly or if he considers things are going badly wrong. And of course if the Ayatollah, old as he is, weakens his grip, Mr Bani-Sadr's position would be all the stronger.

For the West, it will be extremely important to show tact and understanding. There is little doubt that many of the things Mr Bani-Sadr, a radical economist, might like to do—restriction of oil output, nationalization of foreign-owned companies, the rallying of opinion in Islamic countries against western economic influence—are not to its interest nor perhaps to those of Iran. Mr Bani-Sadr has long been convinced that many of Iran's difficulties are the result of too much involvement with western interests, and in this he reflects many of the ideas of Mossadegh. But at the same time he is firmly anti-communist and shows every sign of being fully aware of the threat to Iran from the Soviet Union. The way to respect, therefore, a man by sanctions, but by working to achieve a modus vivendi. The United States, which has every right to anger over the hostages, has to decide whether Iran or Russia is the threat. The West needs a stable and independent Iran, and Mr Bani-Sadr's election could be the first step.

at barely break-even prices, and for industrial consumers to have to subsidize domestic consumers would indeed constitute a distortion of free market economics. If there were a free market in gas, instead of a monopoly gas supplier with monopoly purchase powers in the North Sea, can anyone doubt that domestic gas prices would be much higher even than they are currently proposed—as they are everywhere else in Europe.

Yours faithfully, NICHOLAS BUDGEN, House of Commons, January 22.

From Mr Hugh Faulkner

Sir, We all recognize the need to conserve fossil fuels, but to reduce the demand for gas by pricing it beyond the means of those on low or on modest fixed incomes, shows either a callousness or a complete lack of understanding of the problems being faced by many British people. The Government has promised to help the very poor to meet the cost of the unprecedented cost in fuel prices, but what of the typical pensioner couple whose income is just a little too high for them to qualify for heating allowances?

Such people have frequently worked and saved hard prior to retirement in order to feel financially secure in old age. To be treated in such a cavalier fashion must bring bitterness to what should be happy years. These are the people who will turn off the heating and suffer the ensuing misery, rather than risk receiving bills they are unable to pay.

This nation will not achieve the greatness needed to win through our troubled times if it ignores the needs of the old and needy in this way. Such behaviour merely encourages those with political muscle to use their power for their own selfish financial gain. May I urge the Government to change its decision on fuel prices before we have more winter sickness and tragedy among the old?

Yours truly, HUGH FAULKNER, Director, Help the Aged, 32 Dover Street, W1, January 21.

Christians and cults

From Mr Patrick Lake

Sir, As a very satisfied customer of Scientology, I would like to take issue with a few of the points raised by K. P. Frampton (January 17).

Firstly, I do not consider myself to be a member of a cult. I hold the same religious beliefs as I have always held and no attempt has been made by Scientology to change them.

Scientology is not about religion; it is about the mind. Through Dianetic counselling, the mind is relieved of its aberrations and as a result, the soul becomes free of the afflictions of the body. This is the nearest that Scientology comes to what is accepted as religion.

It is in the area of Dianetic counselling that Scientology has most to offer to the public. This is a science in that progress through it can be measured (by use of an E-Meter) and the end result is a totally predictable state of mind. Scientology is, therefore, understandable and they must surely welcome the efforts of the Deo Gloria Trust who help to confuse an already confused public.

Indeed, it was a surprise to me that an article was written by your Religious Affairs Correspondent (December 31). Dianetic counselling will cure many of the psychosomatic ills that beset us today, from simple aches and pains to drug addiction and alcoholism (to the extent that the normal alcoholic returns to the normal social drinking) and it would seem therefore, more logical if articles were written by your Medical or Science Correspondents.

Mr Frampton appears to lay great store by secondhand information. He is backing the CIA and FBI as being right. There is no justification to assume this; indeed, your own correspondent says that had a accusations against the CIA, Mr great deal of substance. Scientology Frampton castigates Scientology without any direct involvement with Scientology and Dianetic processes. Scientology and Dianetic processes are not, as Mr Frampton implies, "evaluated" without first participating in them. I, myself, was sceptical and in fact afraid (as a result of press

comment), yet these processes did produce the desired result.

Whether or not leading foreign Scientists are allowed into this country will never stop the beneficial results being achieved. It will only lengthen the time for the benefits of Scientology to be appreciated by all. That will be a pity.

Sir, I have the honour to remain your Christian (Church of England) Servant, PATRICK LAKE, The Old Cottage, Wotton Hill, Newbury, Berkshire, January 21.

The price of gas

From Mr Nicholas Budgen, MP for Wolverhampton, South West (Conservative)

Sir, David Wood's article (January 21) alleges that the anticipated rise in domestic gas prices will be seen by some Conservative politicians as an unwarrantable government intervention in commercial decisions and "an unwarrantable distortion of free market economics". I do not believe either claim can be justified.

Setting a financial target for a nationalized industry is what the Government does throughout the public sector. It is what Sir Keith Joseph has done with his break-even target for the British Steel Corporation. Having set the target, the Government leaves it to the industry to achieve that target. That hardly constitutes intervention. It is difficult to see how any government could do any less.

Perhaps it is argued that the target is artificially high and that constitutes "a distortion". What constitutes "a distortion" is a situation where domestic gas prices are barely covering costs. Before the previous Government's price freezes, domestic gas was (about 50 per cent of sales) at a profit. This year it will make any domestic gas sales at all profits, which contribution virtually entirely from are coming and commercial sales. In an age of energy shortages, it seems foolish in the extreme for any producer to be selling energy

HOME NEWS

Washington portrait sold to America is valued at £1.9m

By Geraldine Norman

A portrait of George Washington which has been in the Mount Stuart family since the eighteenth century has been sold to the United States by Lord Bute.

Richard Feigen, the New York dealer who has been the agent for the sale, told me yesterday that his valuation of the picture was about \$4 million (£1.9 million). Only one painting has ever fetched more than that at auction, a Velasquez portrait sold at Christie's for £2,310,000.

The portrait, by the artist-diplomat, John Trumbull, is thought to have been painted in London when he was sent as secretary to the Jay Treaty commission in the 1790s, which finally settled the way of American independence. He was given the job by Washington, whom he knew well and often painted.

Two large versions of this portrait are known and the existence of a small version in London is recorded in the 1790s. It was delivered to a "Mr West" for engraving in 1797, but has been lost sight of. If it has not been destroyed it could still be in England.

The first version was painted by Trumbull in Philadelphia in 1792 and is now at Yale. It has been used for several series of United States stamps.

The painting arrived at the Feigen Gallery on Sunday and

its destination is not yet decided. Negotiations have been taking place over its possible donation to the White House, but another major institution is interested.

Lord Bute stipulated, according to Feigen, that he would sell only if assured that the painting went to a major national institution in the United States.

That was relatively difficult to arrange in one stage when the painting itself was at Mount Stuart on the Isle of Rùm, off the Scottish coast. So the deal has been arranged in two stages.

A Trumbull Trust was set up to look after its purchase and export from Britain to America; the next stage is to negotiate its acquisition by a suitable institution.

In characteristically American style, the whole thing hangs on tax deductions. The painting has to be sold to suitable donors, who will then make a gift of it and set the value of their donation against tax.

Feigen admits that Lord Bute has not been paid \$4m. "I suggested that valuation level," he said, "taking the donors into account."

It might be bought by donors with suitable tax difficulties, lent to the White House for two years, then given at a current market valuation, which could be substantially higher than the purchase price.

Ulster talks give way to 'parallel' conference

From Christopher Thomas Belfast

The Northern Ireland constitutional conference broke for a five-day respite yesterday on an angry note. With no apparent prospect of breaking the impasse on power-sharing.

As the Democratic Unionists and the Alliance Party filed out of Parliament Buildings on Stormont Hill, Roman Catholic political leaders made their way to Stormont Castle a few hundred yards away. There, the Social Democratic and Labour Party delegates began the "parallel" conference on security, the EEC and the economy under the chairmanship of Mr Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

The Democratic Unionists flatly refused to attend the second conference and the Alliance Party delegates decided to await authorization from the party executive next week.

The conference therefore belonged to the SDLP, which is asking the chance of forcing home every aspect of its claim for an Irish dimension to be included in the political remedy to be promulgated by the Government later in the year.

All subjects on the agenda are capable of being broadened into an all-Irish context, which has persuaded the SDLP not to attempt to press the Irish dimension as the primary plank.

The only item discussed yesterday was security, which the SDLP presented under four headings: the political context; the current situation; the policy; the legal system, with reference to emergency legislation and prisons, with special reference to the R-blocks.

Mr John Hume, SDLP leader, said that Mr Atkins had given an assurance that the result of both conferences would be reported simultaneously to the Cabinet.

The main conference yesterday continued to study the Alliance Party's formula for a new administration based on a committee system. It was a friendly, if tense, session.

Outside the atmosphere continued to worsen. The Rev Ian Paisley, Democratic Unionist leader, condemned the "parallel" talks, adding: "We are not going to any sidestep linked to the idea of a united Ireland."

And his robust rejection of power-sharing at executive level brought a sharp report from Senator Mallon, SDLP deputy leader: "If Mr Paisley is saying majority rule is the only way he will look at the problem, I can see little hope for this conference."

The Official Unionists meanwhile are patiently waiting for the administration to collapse or become meaningless in order to justify their boycott.



Signor Francesco Cossiga, the Italian Prime Minister, helps Mrs Thatcher when she had difficulty with the translation system earphones at their press conference in London yesterday.

Soldier in protest clash admonished

From Our Correspondent

A soldier who was seen on television news broadcasts shouting at Sinn Féin marchers in Birmingham was admonished by his commanding officer yesterday after being found guilty of bringing the Army into disrepute.

Fusilier Stuart Smith-Blair was seen climbing a lamp post, shouting and gesticulating at the demonstrators on Sunday.

His sister, Linda, aged 21, was badly injured in Birmingham public house bombings by the Provisional IRA in 1974 in which 21 people died.

Fusilier Smith-Blair was brought back from leave to appear before his commanding officer, Lieutenant Colonel Kerry Woodrow, at Basingstoke Barracks, Cambridge.

Lieutenant Colonel Woodrow said afterwards: "This man was above average in every subject. He admits he was silly."

Eire proposes to give police more powers

From Our Correspondent

Mr Gerry Collins, the Irish Minister for Justice, announced in Dublin yesterday that he is preparing tough new legislation to strengthen the hand of the Republic's police.

Although he refused to be specific about the measures it is thought likely that the new legislation will drastically change the rules of evidence in court, including the right of a suspect to remain silent and the availability of bail.

He intends to present his proposals to the Dail during the next session.

Mr Collins told a press conference that changes in the criminal justice system were necessary to "remove some of the advantages" enjoyed by criminals.

The Garda Commissioner, he said, had made certain recommendations. "These of course are confidential," Mr Collins

said, "but you can deduce that they will deal with problems relating to the rules of evidence and the questioning of suspects."

He agreed that some of the measures could attract the opposition of groups concerned with civil liberties who were intent on obstructing the police.

He said he had consulted with the Attorney General and he would be pressing ahead as fast as possible with the new legislation, but it was up to the government to decide what it would contain.

The commissioner's annual report on crime showed that 62,000 crimes were committed during 1978—a reduction of 1.5 per cent on the 1977 figure. The report also showed that the Garda detection rate had increased by almost 2 per cent.

The trend of a fall in crime had continued but that did not do away with the need for new measures.

Only a week left to save 'ship shops'

By John Young Planning Reporter

Hopes of preserving parts of the historic "ship shops" in Portsmouth naval dockyard rest on an agreement being reached within the next week between the Government's Property Services Agency, Mr John Warren of the Southern Industrial History Museum, West Sussex, and Bovis, the demolition contractors.

The ship shops, believed to be the world's oldest arched iron buildings, are due to be replaced by new admiralty buildings. Mr Warren is confident that he can raise the \$56,000 that Bovis says would be the extra cost of dismantling the parts of the structure that he wants for the museum.

The PSA has no objection to an arrangement between Mr Warren and Bovis, if it does not delay completion of the work.

Tory women call for rise in child benefits

By Our Social Services Correspondent

The Conservative Women's National Advisory Committee is urging the Chancellor of the Exchequer to raise child benefit in the Budget to stop the erosion of family income.

A working party formed by the committee points out in a statement today that the last Budget eroded the position of families with children compared with others by failing to increase child benefits after the rise last April.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, announced last week that child benefits would not rise in April, when tax rates are expected to be altered. He said it made more sense to raise child benefits in November, when social security benefits are increased.

The Conservative women's committee says today that child benefits should be treated as a personal tax allowance, a view taken by both Mr Jenkin and Sir Geoffrey Howe, CC, Chancellor of the Exchequer, when they were opposition spokesmen.

If they were so treated, the women's committee says child benefits could be increased proportionately at the same time as tax allowances for adults. That should be achieved by no increase in child benefits in 1980.

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Detail from Trumbull's painting of George Washington.

Nurses 'should not prescribe pill'

By Staff Reporter

The British Medical Association last night criticised a recommendation by the Royal College of Nursing that some nurses should be able to prescribe oral contraceptives.

A report published yesterday by the working party of the college's Family Planning Forum, said that trained family planning nurses should be allowed to prescribe oral contraceptives to women with no medical problems, without reference to doctors.

Family planning nurses were already experienced in providing family planning help and in some clinics and surgeries proposed the method of contraception, the report said.

Although it emphasised that the prescription of oral contraceptives should not be undertaken by nurses unless they were sure that a safe and proper service to the public could be provided, it suggested that there was no necessity for women to be examined by a doctor before it was decided that it was safe to give them the pill.

Nurses could be trained to undertake the initial examination for prescribing oral contraceptives and a seven-point procedure should be followed before any prescription was made.

That procedure included taking a medical history, measuring blood pressure and having some knowledge of pharmacology, the report said.

The British Medical Association said that it was very unhappy about both the diagnostic and legal aspects of the report's recommendations.

"The pill has side-effects and someone who is medically qualified must take responsibility for the initial diagnosis as to whether a woman should be on it. Only a doctor has specialised training in diagnosis."

"We are talking about prescribing drugs. It is all very well having a checklist, but what happens if a nurse prescribes the pill and it interacts with something that has been prescribed by a doctor? Who is legally liable?" the association asked.

Man who killed sister over 30p gets life term

From Our Correspondent

Chifford John Clarke, aged 22, of Simpson Road, Rainhill, Merseyside, who admitted having killed his sister Deborah, aged 14, with a hammer because she pestered him for 30p, was found not guilty at Liverpool Crown Court yesterday of murder but guilty of manslaughter on the ground of diminished responsibility.

Mr Justice Kilner Brown, sentencing him to life imprisonment, said it was in Mr Clarke's interests as well as that of the public that his sentence should be indeterminate rather than a fixed term that no one could alter.

"Although it sounds a dreadful sentence, it never means what it says", the judge added. "In the end your sentence will be determined by the Home Secretary on the advice of medical experts."

Mother tells of fight to save son buried by snowball

From Our Correspondent

A mother described at an inquest at Wellington, Salop, yesterday how she fought "for what seemed like an age" in a vain attempt to revive her son, aged seven, after he had been buried under a snowball.

Mrs Olive Bowers said she used the kiss of life and heart massage to try to save her son, Anthony, who had been brought to her on a sledge by playmates.

Mr Michael Gwynne, the coroner, was told how the boy's friends had kicked the 3 cwt snowball apart after it had rolled on top of him as they played in a field near their homes at Lawley Bank, Telford.

Stephen Bowers, aged 10, the dead boy's brother, of Station Road, Lawley Bank, said he was playing with Tony, a friend, Ian Brice, aged 10, rolling

snowballs down a sloping field. They rolled one which became about 5ft high, and became stuck in a rut. Anthony moved in front to free it and the snowball rolled on to him, completely burying him.

Stephen Bowers added: "It was too heavy for Ian and me to roll off him, so we kicked it apart. I heard Tony moan, and put him on a sledge."

Mrs Bowers said: "I realised something was wrong. I have we eventually got him out, and had medical training. I tried mouth to mouth revival, and heart massage for what seemed like an age, and neighbours also helped me."

Recording a verdict of misadventure Mr Gwynne said it was an identifiable tragedy. No blame attached to anyone.

Medical evidence was given that the boy died from asphyxia.

Local authority chiefs attack Bill

By Christopher Warman

Local Government Correspondent

There is no case for the proposed local government legislation, local government chiefs conclude in a report on the Government's recently published Local Government, Planning and Land (No 2) Bill.

The Society of Local Authority Chief Executives in collaboration with the Institute of Local Government Studies of Local Government, argue in a strongly critical appraisal that the proposals would lead to greater central control in spite of the Government's assertions that it wished to give councils greater freedom within an overall framework of control.

The one point that can be made with certainty is that on the key issues in the Bill, whenever a choice has had to be made, the Government has

chosen control and influence by central government over individual local authorities, rather than reliance on local accountability within a national framework.

That inevitably replaces local political control by new bureaucratic procedures, the report says.

Referring to proposals which would give closer control over local authority capital spending and introduce a new block grant system, the report claims that a Bill which states as its intention to relax controls over local government "in practice does exactly the reverse. Minor relaxations are confounded by major proposals for new controls."

There was nothing in the pattern of council spending to justify a move by the Government from a concern for the total of local government expenditure to a concern for

the position in particular authorities.

The implications of the proposals mean that the Secretary of State for the Environment would have direct power over each council.

The introduction of a standard expenditure and standard rate package implied that individual spending and rate levels would be known by everyone, and if they were identified the Secretary of State would be answerable on individual cases.

By moving from general statements about local government expenditure to particular statements about particular local authorities, ministers will inevitably have to abandon their general argument about curbing the possibility of achieving cutback by natural wastage alone.

"They will have to face the consequences"

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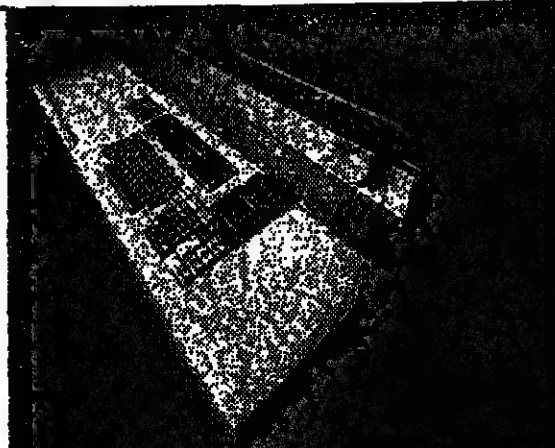
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HOME NEWS

Most 11-year-olds cannot apply their basic mathematics in more complex settings

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

Just 11-year-olds can do mathematics involving the more fundamental concepts and skills, and simple applications of them, according to a report published yesterday. But there is a sharp decline in performance when they try to apply that basic knowledge in more complex settings or unfamiliar contexts.

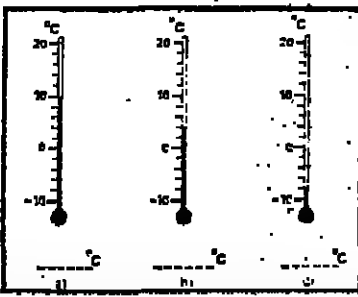
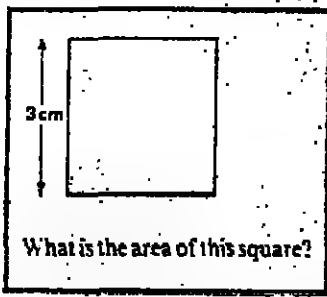
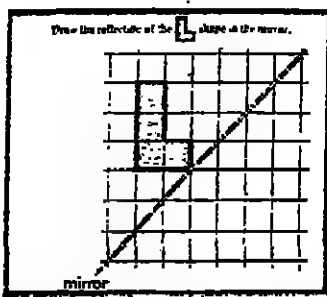
That is the conclusion of the first national survey of the performance in mathematics of 11-year-olds in England and Wales carried out by the Assessment of Performance Unit of the Department of Education and Science.

Written and practical tests were given to more than 15,000 children in about 1,000 mainstream primary and independent schools during May, 1978. More tests were carried out among different children and schools last May, the results of which are not yet available. The testing will be repeated each year.

Similar surveys have been made by the unit of the performance in mathematics of 15-year-olds and the language development of children aged 11 and 15. Assessments in science for pupils aged 11, 13 and 15 are due to begin this year. Modern languages will follow. All surveys will be done on an annual basis.

The aim of the first survey of 11-year-olds' mathematics is to pronounce on whether standards in schools are lower or higher than they should be, but simply to present a picture of what children are doing, the report says. It leaves it to others to make value judgments.

It points out that the breadth of subject matter covered by the tests made it unlikely that any individual school would have taught all the material to



Three examples from the tests: Only 14 per cent of pupils were able to draw the L-shape reflection correctly; 37 per cent knew the area of the square; and the three thermometers (right) were read correctly by 83, 34, and 21 per cent respectively.

all its pupils. The percentage of pupils reported as having got an item right is based on the number who took the test and not on the number who had been taught the mathematics included in that item.

The following are sample test questions, with the proportion of children providing the correct answer in parentheses.

Put these decimals in order of size, smallest first: 0.7; 0.23; 0.1 (21%).

What number is 10 times 0.5? (34%).

The number which is one less than 2010 is ...? (64%).

$24 \times 25 = ?$ (38%). $1 + 1 = ?$ (27%).

B stands for a number; $B - 9 = 21$, so $B - 10 = ?$ (51%).

150 people are coming to see a school play; the chairs are arranged in rows of 15; how many rows will be needed? (66%).

In a traffic count, there are on average 25 cars to every 3 buses; 12 buses go by in 1 hour; about how many cars would pass in one hour? (38%).

Sometimes language was an added obstacle. Only 25 per cent got this question right: A batting average in cricket is found by dividing the number of runs scored by number of

times out. Fill in the following table:

Name	No. of runs	No. of times out	Average
Boycott	500	10	50

Pupils' grasp of the concept of a decimal place value was shown by several items to be tenuous, the report says. Fractions could be added by 60-70 per cent if their denominators were the same, but by fewer than 30 per cent if they were not.

Different contexts influenced performance. A division of two numbers, $84 \div 4$, was answered correctly by 70 per cent of pupils, but the same calculation written more unusually in fraction form, $84/4$, was answered correctly by only 40 per cent.

While pupils generally understood the basic idea of symbols, graphs and diagrams, many found translating and manipulating symbols too abstract for them. They perceived only what was immediately evident.

The mean scores of pupils in different types of schools were compared. It was found, contrary to expectations, that the schools with the best pupil-teacher ratio (which normally means smaller classes) obtained lower scores than those with the least favourable staffing ratio.

Additional analyses showed that even after allowing for the fact that schools with the most favourable pupil-teacher ratio tended to include a high proportion of poor children, pupils in those schools still tended to achieve lower mean scores.

Further detailed study of the data is required, the report suggests.

Pupils in the counties tended to do better than those in the cities, but metropolitan areas had a higher proportion of poor children. Pupils living in affluent catchment areas in metropolitan authorities did not have significantly lower scores than their peers in county schools.

A comparison of the results achieved by girls and boys showed that the girls tended to score higher in computation (whole numbers and decimals), while the boys did better in tests involving length, area, volume, applications of number, and rate and ratio. But differences between the sexes were only slight.

Mathematical Development. Primary survey report No. 1. Assessment of Performance Unit. (Department of Education and Science, Welsh Office, Stationery Office, £5.)

Mr Corrie says Bill 'inadequate'

By Annabel Ferriman

The Abortion (Amendment) Bill does not go far enough in amending the law on abortion but it goes as far as is possible at the present time, Mr John Corrie, Conservative MP for Arraigh, North and Butte, told a rally in the Methodist Central Hall, Westminster, yesterday.

Mr Corrie, whose Bill reaches its report stage on February 3, said that the enthusiastic rally organized by the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children made up for the bitter moments of the past few months when his Bill had been "nibbled through the committee stage".

"I have been kicked, spat upon and insulted. My family have been telephoned during the night to make sure that they could not get a full night's sleep because I took this Bill on," he said.

He was delighted to see so many young people in the audience because he had been told that youth was against the Bill. But he was now convinced that young people did not want abortion on demand.

If the current law was made more liberal, it would be the end of society as we knew it, he said. His Bill was possibly the last chance for a decade to change the law and, although it did not go far enough, it was as much as he could get through Parliament at present.

Mr Cyril Smith, Liberal MP for Rochdale, supporting Mr Corrie's Bill, said that it was



Doctors and nurses on a float during a counter-demonstration against the Corrie Bill.

ridiculous that although a majority of MPs in the last four Parliaments had been in favour of amending the 1967 Abortion Act, they had been unable to succeed because of procedural difficulties.

Other speakers in support of the Bill were Mr James Hamilton, Labour MP for Bothwell, Sir Bernard Braine, Conservative MP for Essex, South-East, Mr Michael Ancram, Conservative MP for Edinburgh, South, Mrs Elaine Keiller-Sowman, Conservative MP for Lancaster and Mr Alan Beth, Liberal MP

for Berwick-upon-Tweed. Christians for Free Choice, whose patrons include the Rev the Lord Soper and the Rev Chad Vane, the founder of The Samaritans, have sent a letter to every MP supporting the 1967 Abortion Act asking them to vote against Mr Corrie's Bill.

The letter states that if the Bill became law it would result in a return to back-street abortions which would endanger the health of the poorer women in society.

The Abortion Law Reform Association launched a critical assessment of the anti-abortion lobby with a pamphlet entitled "Is anti-abortion pro-life?"

It attacks the role of the Roman Catholic Church in attempting to write its religious beliefs into the law by proclaiming it is in favour of "the fight for life".

The pamphlet states that the Church's attitude is not due to reverence for life. It claims that the Church has often taken a position that is anti-life. For example, it forces women to die rather than have an abortion.

Mr William Kuhn, aged 38, a United States oil executive, was threatened with a £100 fine and a £1000 fine for driving a car without a licence.

Mr Kuhn was arrested after an armed gang burst into his home in Chelsea, London, the prosecution said at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Mr Robert Harman, QC, for the Crown, said Mr Kuhn was also beaten and kicked and his wife, aged 36, threatened with rape and death.

The gang, wielding weapons including a knife, an axe and a crowbar, forced their way into the house and demanded valuables.

Mr Harman was opening the case against Joseph McCormack, aged 25, a carpenter, of Campden Road, Fulham, London, who denies taking part in the robbery on April 5 last and causing grievous bodily harm with intent to Mr Kuhn.

Before the trial began five people who admitted taking part in the robbery were sentenced. Christopher Kymall, aged 32, unemployed, of Fenore Estate,

Raising lake 'would kill large area of trees'

From Our Correspondent

Whitehaven

A large area of woodland around Ennerdale Water would be cleared if a proposal by the North West Water Authority to raise the level of the lake went ahead.

Mr William Gillespie, the authority's landscape planning consultant, told the "two lakes" inquiry at Whitehaven yesterday that coniferous trees on a

plantation beside the lake would be felled, exposing four hectares. The site would be used for a treatment works.

"The felling of such an area within the established woodland and the changed drainage conditions brought about by the excavations will increase the likelihood of 'windblow'," he said.

"The effects of felling and excavating could therefore result in the destruction of an even larger area of woodland."

The authority seeks planning permission to raise the level of Ennerdale Water by four feet, providing more water for industrial West Cumbria, while British Nuclear Fuels, in a separate application, plans a similar scheme for Westwater to provide more water for Windermere.

The inquiry continues today.

Cigarette cards ruling later

The House of Lords reserved judgment yesterday on the legality of a multi-million pound "Spot Cash" cigarette card scheme launched by Imperial Tobacco to promote sales.

The Attorney General has appealed to the House of Lords against a ruling by the Court of Appeal in March last year that the scheme is lawful.

Appointment of Contractors for Independent Television

The Independent Broadcasting Authority hereby gives notice of its intention to make contracts for the provision of television programmes to be broadcast by the Authority. These contracts will replace the present contracts which are due to expire on 31st December 1981.

The Authority accordingly invites applications from those who wish to enter into contracts with the Authority for the provision of television programmes as from 1st January 1982.

The Authority proposes to grant contracts for the provision of television programmes in the areas, and for the days of the week and for the times of day as shown below (subject to any necessary exclusion of time in respect of breakfast-time).

Contract A	London	Monday to Friday Evening
Contract B	London	Friday Evening, Saturday and Sunday
Contract C	East and West Midlands	All Week
Contract D	Yorkshire	All Week
Contract E	North-West England	All Week
Contract F	South and South-East England	All Week

Contract G	South-West England	All Week
Contract H	North-East England	All Week
Contract I	East of England	All Week
Contract J	Wales and West of England	All Week
Contract K	Borders	All Week
Contract L	Central Scotland	All Week
Contract M	North Scotland	All Week
Contract N	Northern Ireland	All Week
Contract O	Channel Islands	All Week

The Authority is also prepared to receive applications for a contract for the provision of television programmes primarily of news, information and current affairs to be broadcast on a national basis seven days a week in the early morning until 9.15 a.m.

Documents containing particulars of these contracts and details of the information required of applicants may be obtained by intending applicants on written request from the Secretary to the Independent Broadcasting Authority, 70 Brompton Road, London SW3 1EY. These particulars include, among other conditions likely to be attached to the contracts, references to their duration, to the provision of teletext ('Oracle') and to the relationship to Independent Television programme companies with the Fourth Channel. Applications together with full supporting particulars should reach the Secretary to the Authority not later than noon on 9th May, 1980.

BRYAN ROOK Secretary to the Authority

Tory club is called elitist and hateful

By Ian Bradley

A club set up by the Paddington Conservative Association has been described as "elitist, arrogant and hateful" by one of those invited to join.

Two weeks ago the association sent out about 200 letters to people who had supported the Conservative Party in Paddington inviting them to join the Right Club. The letters were signed by the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, the association's patron.

The object of the club, according to the letters, is to provide an opportunity for the MP for Paddington, John Wheeler, and local councillors to maintain personal contact with influential constituents. Membership of the club is limited and by invitation only. The annual subscription is £100 and members will meet informally for drinks, probably twice a year.

One of those who received a letter, Mr Philip Barker, is a former supporter of the Conservative Party who now belongs to the Labour Party. He is an undischarged bankrupt. He said yesterday that he was appalled by the exclusiveness of the club and the notion that "your views are worth having if you can put down £100".

Mr Barker, who teaches at an English language school in Paddington, said that he had left the Conservative Party because he was disturbed by the housing policies of Westminster City Council.

He said that he was particularly worried by reference in the Duke of Richmond's letter to the Labour Party as "one of our greatest enemies".

He was also concerned that the views of only the richer members of the community were being given special consideration by the Government and Tory councillors.

The Duke of Richmond said: "There are such people as big businessmen who are in touch with a far wider public than the average constituent. I think it is an exceedingly good thing for these people to meet."

Mrs Shirley De Winter, the Conservative agent for Paddington, said that the club had been set up purely as an informal fund-raising venture.

Paddington is the fourth most marginal Conservative seat in the country. It was won by Mr Wheeler from Mr Arthur Latham in the last election by 106 votes.

Mr Barker said he was particularly disturbed by the reference in the Duke of Richmond's letter to the Labour Party as "one of our greatest enemies".

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Ninth century 'precedent' for Northern home rule

'England never was' and Fleet Street proves it, lecturer claims

From John Chatterton

Manchester

An academic paper has advanced a theory that could be summed up by the phrase: "There never was an England."

It is by Mr Michael Steed, a Manchester University lecturer, and is being widely circulated by the Campaign for the North organization, which seeks regional government.

Mr Steed, who is a former Liberal Party parliamentary candidate and supports the campaign, sums up his arguments by saying: "England, Scotland and Wales are not equivalent entities; the use of English, Scottish and Welsh as adjectives describing equivalent political, cultural or geographical phenomena muddles thinking."

There is no English administrative state in the way that both Scotland and Wales have acquired partly autonomous administration. There is no English office, nor Secretary of State for English Affairs.

Mr Steed prefers to view the division of the United Kingdom as a series of arcs centred on London with inner and outer "cores" and an "inner periphery" and an "outer periphery".

According to his theory, the inner core of up to an 80-mile radius from London takes in the City and the South-east; the outer core of up to 200 miles from the capital includes East Anglia, the Midlands and the north of England. Only those two cores, he maintains, constituted Egbert of Wessex's original England of the ninth century.

The inner periphery of 200 to 300 miles from London takes in the North, Wales, and the South-west. The outer periphery includes Scotland and Ireland and the mid-south or West of England.

Mr Steed's paper, which was prepared for the Political Studies Association, says: "The English hardly recognize their own identity since they rarely distinguish between what is English and what is British."

The arrangement of the conclusions by the Royal Commission on Devolution, he maintains, was "highly misleading". His paper says: "The simple message from the Royal Commission was that devolution to Scotland and Wales, whilst maintaining the unity of the United Kingdom, was on-er behind the simple message lay muddled disagreement."

In an examination of the British press Mr Steed says that Manchester "occasionally and mildly challenges the primacy of Fleet Street", quoting *The Guardian* and the *Daily Star* as examples.

But with most major London-based dailies having quite a distinct edition for the north of England, published in Manchester, it is clearly the secondary national press centre.

He points out that there is almost a fully separate Scottish press.

"Is it coincidence?" he asks, "that this pattern eerily recalls the political geography of ninth century Britain?"

"London and Manchester substitute for Canterbury and York; the area of exclusive or overwhelming dominance of Fleet Street editions is Egbert's realm, with the increasing importance of locally published morning papers to the North and West paralleling the kings and princes who owed some allegiance to Edward the Elder or Athelstan."

Scotland maintains most independence, but Edward and Athelstan, like Fleet Street papers, made some attempts to cover it.

Libel award to diarist against BBC

Nigel Dempster, the *Daily Mail* diarist, was awarded substantial libel damages against the BBC in the High Court yesterday.

He complained of defamatory and offensive jibes about his personal and financial affairs during a Radio London broadcast in November, 1976.

Mr Charles Gray, his counsel, told Mr Justice Wynn that the libel had been made by Mr Couri Hay, a journalist on the *American Express*, in an interview. Mr Hay had also said: "There is a lot of dirt about Nigel."

Mr Gray said the BBC recognized that Mr Dempster had been unjustifiably libelled. They had agreed to make a public apology and pay him substantial damages and his legal costs.

Mr John Preville, for the BBC, said they accepted that the interview included "remarks about Mr Dempster which were untrue, and they regretted the distress caused to him."

The judge gave leave for the record of the action to be withdrawn.

Later, Mr Dempster said the amount of the award was "four figures—less than a Ferrari but more than a Mini".

Fringe theatre refuses to quit demolition site

By Martin Huckerby

Theatre Reporter

A small fringe theatre in the middle of the site for the £40m Trocadero development at Piccadilly Circus is refusing to quit its premises, although demolition has begun on the site.

The Almost Free theatre has received 30 days' notice to quit its building in Rupert Street, but Mr Ed Berman, artistic director of Inter-Action, which is responsible for the theatre, said it would continue to present productions there until the developers agreed, in writing, to provide an adequate theatre in the new development.

He said that Richard Ellis and Partners, the development consultants for the site, had offered a space which, he said, was a theatre, required the installation of a raked floor, which could cost

£50,000. The Almost Free did not have that money.

Mr Berman said they did not want to hold up the development but they would resort to law to gain their rights.

However, Richard Ellis said yesterday that so far as they and the owners were concerned, Mr Berman did not have a legal tenancy. Nevertheless they had agreed to provide space.

The space was 5,000 sq ft, as against the present 3,000, and was offered at a very preferential rate of £9,000 for such a space in the heart of Piccadilly. Fitting-out costs could not be borne by the developers.

Richard Ellis said that a revised offer was being made to Mr Berman, in an attempt to accommodate his wishes.

The offer was part of their way to be helpful to the theatre group, but a £40m development was involved. They were taking legal advice.

Arts groups press EEC for aid with buildings

By Our Theatre Reporter

The European Economic Commission is coming under pressure from a variety of British arts organizations seeking financial help for new buildings after large EEC grants have been made to arts projects.

The Regional Development Fund of the EEC has provided £475,000 towards the cost of



\$305m Soviet deals hang fire in Italy

Three important contracts between Italian companies and the Soviet Union are reported to be in doubt because of the tougher stance adopted by Italy in the wake of the United States action over the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

The Foreign Trade ministry has been informed from Moscow that it is ready to conclude the contracts, provided credit facilities are available. These include one of \$150m (about £66m) for the provision of a chemical plant by Techintrom (Montedison Group); of \$85m for the sale by SNIA Viscosa of fibre manufacturing equipment; and of \$70m for the supply of plant and equipment by Pirelli.

The Italian government, however, has postponed a visit by a Soviet economic delegation to discuss raising the current credit line, nearly exhausted, of \$650m to \$1,000m or \$1,200m.

Meanwhile negotiations are reported to be under way for the opening of a \$100m credit line by Isveimer, a publicly owned credit institution, with the Bank of China to promote exports to China.

Stuttgart stoppage
IG Metall, the West German metal workers' union, called a stoppage yesterday at a Standard Electric Lorenz AG plant in Stuttgart. IG Metall want a 9.5 to 10 per cent wage increase. The factory offered 4.8 per cent.

China project decision
China is planning to build 25 per cent of facilities in the second phase of construction of the giant steelworks on the outskirts of Shanghai, according to Japan's Nippon Steel Corporation which has been operating the project. Peking authorities notified the company of their decision recently.

US patent law changes
Stirred by warnings of an "innovation lag" in industry, the United States Congress is starting to work seriously on changes in patent law intended to bring new products into the market-place.

Oil search off Jamaica
Norway is discussing the possibility of collaborating with the Jamaican government in exploring for oil off Jamaica's southern coast. Feasibility studies will begin next Monday.

Futures popular
The New York futures exchange has received 1,570 membership applications. If it accepted them all, it would be bigger than its parent, the New York Stock Exchange (1,366 members) and the Chicago Board of Trade (1,402).

China's loan policy
China is using funds borrowed from abroad mainly to boost production and exploit natural resources so it can export goods and earn more foreign exchange, said Mr Bu Wing, the Bank of China president in Peking. He said: "We consider our ability to repay first when arranging foreign loans. We honour our commitments and repay loans on time."

\$20m Arab order
Telefonaktiebolaget LM Ericsson says in Stockholm it has received a contract worth around \$20m (nearly £9m) to supply and install digital telephone exchanges at various locations in the United Arab Emirates.

Stores group hopes volume growth will cover price cuts on 300 items

Renewed pressure on retail margins

Some reawakening of the High Street price war, with the prospect of retailers' margins being cut back to 1978 levels, seems likely after the announcement yesterday by Leeds-based Asda Stores of a wide range of price cuts of between 5 per cent and 20 per cent.

Asda, part of Associated Dairies Group and Britain's largest supermarket operator, is already on average the most consistently cheapest selling multiple according to Audits of Great Britain (AGB).

Increased competition at a time when retail trade prospects look gloomy is only one of several new costs pressures on the multiples. Local authorities are growing much tougher about granting planning permission for the cheaper out-of-town sites, driving new retail development back to town centres or edge-of-town sites.

Mr Bob Muir, managing director of International Stores, the Asda's supermarket subsidiary, said yesterday that the chain's nine supermarkets would be expanded to 40 or more by the mid-1980s but none of the new stores would be out of town. A fully in-town development was probably twice as costly as one out of town, he added.

Asda, which operates 52 supermarkets with 10 more being built, has another 30 or more possible development sites in the pipeline but a third are in-town or edge-of-town. This was a much higher percentage of town sites than before, said Mr Peter Firmin-Williams, Asda's managing director.

Retailers also face either in the coming Budget or in 1981 the probable phasing out of stock appreciation relief, which has meant for several years non-payment of corporation tax.

However, Tesco Stores, whose finance director Mr Ralph Temple is campaigning for the construction part of retail building tax allowances, expects no slow-



Mr Firmin-Williams: seeking major growth in Asda's share of the market.

ing down in any of the multiples' dash into supermarket growth.

Mr Temple has argued that higher costs will mean higher prices because of tight retail profit margins. But if Asda's wide-ranging reductions stimulate more price competition, it is margins that are likely to suffer.

Asda, which is cutting prices of 120 food items and 130 non-food, is bargaining on keeping its net margins steady by increasing its sales volume. A £1 million advertising campaign, including television commercials, is backing the campaign.

The group's store opening programme —it wants to develop 10 district centres a year—will also gear up the volume of sales. But the price-cutting campaign is intended to make a major contribution with no intention of making it a short-term promotion.

Mr Firmin-Williams said: "We do not believe in loss leaders. Any loss in profit margin will be more than recovered

from increased volume and the Asda market share should show a proportionate growth." Asda, at present holding a 7 per cent market share, was aiming at between 10 per cent and 12 per cent by 1985.

A perspective on the impact of the Asda price-cutting is that the group claims it will save its present customers £5m in a full year. But Tesco's Operation Checkmate, which started the latest High Street price war more than two years ago, discounted its prices by around £20m, although on a trade accounting for about twice the present Asda market share.

Mr Firmin-Williams was at pains yesterday to play down the prospect of a major intensification of the price war. He did not think competitors would follow because they had already announced their own campaigns, such as the Discount 80 of J. Sainsbury.

But he agreed that the easing of retail margins, seen during last year, was likely to turn round. "We could see a return to 1978 margins," he said.

Sainsbury said yesterday it saw the Asda move as a response particularly to its own discount campaign. It also contested Asda's claim to being the cheapest selling multiple, claiming that AGB figures did not include some hypermarkets.

Sainsbury's own price survey showed it more competitive than Asda in supermarkets and hypermarkets and only marginally behind in supermarkets, the company claimed. But most of Sainsbury's outlets are supermarkets.

International Stores yesterday announced introduction of laser scanning of goods to check out at Eddystone, a new store early in March, a system on which most major multiples are committed to trials. International is looking to the new system for greater efficiency and competitiveness.

Derek Harris

Egyptians refuse to pay Arab deposits

Cairo, Jan 28—Egypt's government has balked at Arab demands for the return of \$2,000m banked here, arguing it has the right to forfeit politically motivated attempts to wreck the economy.

But top Egyptian officials said the government has not permanently frozen or seized the petrodollar accounts. The officials contend that, for national security reasons, the money cannot be released now, and the suggestion seems to be that the money is just not available.

Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq complained to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) last year that the accounts were blocked and called on the IMF to take action. At Egypt's request, the IMF last week delayed consideration of the Arab complaints until March.

Mr Mustafa Khalil, the Egyptian Prime Minister, denied that his country intended to keep the deposits, which date back to the 1960s. He said: "When someone comes and asks me to pay a certain sum of money, and I say I don't have it but give me a chance, that doesn't mean I am not going to pay it back."

Western diplomatic sources say, \$30m from Iraq, \$800m from Kuwait and more than \$1,000m from Saudi Arabia is deposited in Egypt. Only Iraq and Kuwait are known to have asked for some or all of their deposits returned.

Mr Gamal Maza, Egypt's Minister of State, said the deposits were intended as economic aid and had been used for collateral to obtain loans and import emergency supplies.

"We definitely can't come up with all of it now," Mr Maza said, adding that Kuwait and Saudi officials repeatedly assured Egypt as late as mid-1977 that the money would never be withdrawn. That was before President Anwar Sadat's peace-making journey to Israel in November 1977 and a 17-nation Arab boycott of Egypt.

The sudden withdrawal of vast amounts of hard currency could wreck havoc on Egypt's economy. "It could cause a monetary crisis," Mr Maza conceded.

Lockheed research may herald 'all-electric' aircraft controls

Aircraft could be using electric control systems in place of conventional hydraulic and pneumatic systems by the late 1980s if research at the Lockheed-Georgia Company in the United States proves successful.

It would represent the first major change in aircraft systems for over 30 years. Among the expected benefits are simplification in operation and weight-saving.

It is assumed that the aircraft would be powered by conventional jet engines using aviation fuel. The secondary power system, used, for example, for lowering the landing gear and providing the hydraulic pressure for moving flying control surfaces such as elevator and rudder, would be based on electric generators and motors using "earth magnets" which are claimed to be much stronger than traditional magnets.

Hydraulic systems, using compressed liquid to move and control the aircraft subsystems, are admittedly efficient but, according to Lockheed-Georgia, are complex and expensive and require considerable maintenance.

"The new electric systems would be twice as good in terms of maintainability and reliability," the company states. "They would also weigh less, thus reducing cost and fuel consumption." Another expected advantage is that the fire risk would be less.

On the basis of research to date, the company estimates that an "all-electric" medium-range transport aircraft would, over its lifetime, cost about £50m less to build, operate and maintain than a conventional one.

From Farnborough comes a new technique of radar imaging and special computer-based processing which has enabled the Royal Aircraft Establishment there to produce high-quality photographs of parts of British radar images taken by the United States National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Seasat satellite.

A new crane design means that greater weights can be lifted to greater heights with a novel crane boom, known as the Octag, which was launched by Coles Cranes in London yesterday. It is the result of a £500,000 research programme by the company.

This is Coles's response to a growing demand in the instal-

Technology News

Satellite pictures of the earth taken at optical wavelengths provide little information at night or when the surface is obscured by cloud. Radar wavelengths can be used to cut through these obstacles, but the resulting pictures are normally much coarser because the wavelengths are longer.

Special "synthetic aperture" radar techniques, and pulse compression, were adopted on the Seasat satellite to give the equivalent in performance of a 4km diameter aerial, radiating at 500kHz.

The radar data were beamed down to the European Space Agency's Earthnet ground terminal at Oakham, Hampshire. The processing needed to constitute the pictures was done at Farnborough using a special computer system developed by Systems Designers of Cambridge.

Each picture contains up to 6,250,000 "pixels" or picture points defining various shades of grey, and takes up to eight seconds to transmit. One processed picture of the St Bride's Bay and Milford Haven area showed a surface resolution of 25 metres.

Main objective of the Seasat experiment was to measure the behaviour of the world's oceans. It was designed to show potential users how specialized satellites could provide useful data to weather forecasters, shipping companies, safety organizations, fisheries, environmental protection managers and other groups.

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This is Coles's response to a growing demand in the instal-

lation and construction industries for equipment capable of this improved performance. In particular, there is a need to be able to install complex computing, heating, and/or communications equipment in buildings several hundred feet high.

In the Octag design the normal rectangular cross-section is replaced by one that is octagonal. This outer shell is further strengthened by heavy metal

rams within the octagonal tube which bears most of the stress as the crane is telescoped to its full extent.

In previous designs, the further the telescopic crane was extended the smaller the load it could take. Increasing the dimensions of the rectangular sections added further weight.

Using the new design, Coles claims that cranes can lift 30 per cent lighter and can lift 30 per cent greater weights to distances 10 per cent more than

conventional designs.

In research which began 21 years ago Coles simulated a range of hexagonal, trapezoidal and octagonal constructions on a computer-based design system before concluding that the octagonal layout was best.

Price of an Octag crane able to lift 155 tons will be about £250,000. Smaller models will also be produced in a bid to satisfy the crane hire market.

The Department of Industry is to sponsor a study of the applications of microelectronics in manufacturing industries, to be carried out by the consultancy division of the Computing Services Association. Beginning next month, the project is expected to be completed in about eight months.

This was announced recently by Dr Douglas Eysenck, the newly appointed director-general of the association. The CSA has over 170 member companies, representing over 90 per cent of the United Kingdom computing services industry.

Kenneth Owen and Bill Johnstone

UK motor products' trade deficit for first time

By Edward Townsend

For the first time, Britain's motor industry, including the relatively buoyant components sector, has suffered a deficit in its balance of foreign trade.

A surplus of earnings for all motor products of £763m in 1978 became a deficit of £287m last year, while the car components sector has suffered a deficit of £4,050m, a 5 per cent rise on 1978, imports increased by 40 per cent to £4,337m.

The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders said yesterday that the major factor in the turnaround was a fall of 12 per cent in the value of car exports, from £924m to £817m. In contrast, car imports rose in value by 46 per cent to £2,582m.

All other motor products produced a balance in favour of the United Kingdom. Commercial vehicle exports were worth £619m last year compared with imports of £373m, exports of motor components and accessories were valued at £1,913m (imports £1,149m) and other motor products exported were worth £702m (imports £234m).

Meanwhile, the Government has again dismissed the possibility of car import controls. Mr David Mitchell, Under Secretary of State for Industry, told the Commons that the only true answer was for British companies to produce vehicles of "a quality and price that consumers can afford."

He said the total number of vehicles produced in the United Kingdom last year was 1.48 million the lowest for 10 years. In 1969, home manufacturers produced 2.18 million vehicles and the car import penetration that year was 10 per cent. In 1979, foreign cars captured 56 per cent of sales.

John Brown workers told to raise output to safeguard jobs

By Philip Robinson

The 16,000 workforce of one of Britain's largest engineering companies will receive a letter from their chairman today, saying effectively that unless productivity improves jobs will be lost.

Mr John Mayhew-Sanders, who heads the international John Brown group, says that the company is "facing difficult times, if not a crisis."

Mr Mayhew-Sanders states that the men and women on the shop floor in the office and in the field of installation are only half or a third as productive as their counterparts in Japan, Germany and the United States.

This is partly because management has sometimes failed to identify and implement available modern methods, he says, "but is overwhelmingly the result of what I will describe as a general but not universal absence of positive cooperation."

His letter adds: "If we fail to do something about this problem that orders for the sort of goods that we engineer and manufacture will be harder still to win than they are already."

"To get what business we can, we will have to be highly competitive by the best international standards."

Mr Mayhew-Sanders says the solutions "will not be easy to achieve but need not be all that difficult. We are already taking steps to this end."

John Brown's chief executives are already drawing up comprehensive plans for the improvement of productivity and competitiveness. The group hopes to implement these in the next few years.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Archaic' infrastructure service impeding economic growth

From the Director General, the Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors

Sir, While agreeing in general terms with your leader "Public borrowing must fall" (January 24), I should like to draw the attention of your readers to one particular aspect of public expenditure. That is the low level of capital investment made by successive governments in the country's basic infrastructure.

Over the past five years, the share of public expenditure put into capital investment has shrunk from 20.1 per cent to 14.5 per cent. The decline in the proportion devoted to basic civil engineering expenditure is even more marked—from 5.1 per cent to 3.7 per cent.

This expenditure, on roads and bridges, water and sewerage services and other major capital items, provides an essential platform for the efficient operation of almost all other industries, both in the private and the public sector.

If this country is to hold its own with its overseas competitors, it is essential for the private sector of industry, upon which the bulk of our exports depend, to have the benefit of an efficient internal transportation system of roads, rail and ports, coupled with those other basic infrastructure services such as adequate and reliable water and sewerage facilities and power.

The significance of investment in national infrastructure can be seen from the fact that the proportion of GDP (as a percentage) spent on civil engineering in West Germany is twice as much as in the United Kingdom. In pure monetary terms, because their GDP is higher than ours, West Germany spends over four and a half times as much per annum on basic infrastructure as does this country.

In France the percentage of GDP spent on infrastructure is 50 per cent higher than here and in monetary terms two and

a half times our own spending. The relative state of the German and French economies compared with this country can be attributed to no small measure to their investment.

Unfortunately, we have seen successive governments neglect this essential investment to a point where parts of our infrastructure are now so archaic and under-maintained as to create an impediment to the growth of the private sector upon which our national economic wellbeing depends. In view of its commitment to revitalising private manufacturing industry, the Government must play its part in directing the necessary funds to this vital capital investment.

Yours faithfully,
DEREK GAULTER,
Director General,
Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors
Crowley House,
6 Portland Street,
London WC2A 2HH,
January 24.

Finniston report could harm civil engineering

From Mr Hugh Ferguson

Sir, The Finniston report on engineering concentrates on the problems as the committee's brief required. As such, its recommendations have been welcomed in your columns and elsewhere. But these recommendations also apply to the civil engineering industry, which is different in nature and has a different set of problems.

Unlike manufacturing industry, civil engineering depends principally on client demand, largely from government, for major capital works: its projects are usually large and complex, may take ten years or more to plan and build and are widely spaced throughout the world.

Civil engineers are already regarded as being charged with almost all responsible engineering jobs, unlike their colleagues in manufacturing, and they are already well represented in middle and senior management of most companies. Their standards of education and training are already higher than Finniston proposes. And the setbacks of the civil engineering industry in recent years are attributable principally to public expenditure cuts and not at all to any drop in performance compared with overseas competition.

Yet not once does the Finniston report acknowledge that

these differences exist, let alone discuss their implications. Nor does it appear that much notice is being taken on the construction view now.

Civil engineers have no wish to oppose changes which will help manufacturing industry recover from its present parlous state: indeed, they would like to do all they can to help. Nor are they suffering from an overdose of arrogance or complacency—civil engineering has plenty of problems of its own.

Many of Finniston's proposals may be beneficial for civil engineering. Many others will not. But, before decisions are taken, we need an urgent review of the applicability of Finniston to civil engineering, possibly sponsored jointly by the Department of the Environment, which knows much about construction, and the Department of Industry. Otherwise permanent damage may be done to civil engineering in this country.

HUGH FERGUSON,
Editor,
New Civil Engineer,
26/34 Old Street,
London EC1V 9AD.

those of his arguments that may have some validity.

I spend much of my time visiting garment factories in the numerous exporting countries of the Far East and there is no government which enforces the regulations on the origin of garments more strictly than does the Hongkong Government. Factories are subject to regular spot checks and the implementation of the very drastic regulations are scrupulously enforced.

I can assure Mr Alec Smith that in Hong Kong there are no "icebergs" and the "tip" of the one he believes he has sighted is not the top of a mountain of black jeans destined for the United Kingdom which has been deliberately submerged by the Hongkong Government.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE RIGAL,
Buyer,
L.D. Abraham & Co. Ltd.,
104-110 Goswell Road,
London EC1V 7DJ.

Sea water rich source of gold

From Mr George B. Rigal

Sir, I am lost in admiration of the illogicality of the proposals made by the Tailors and Garment Workers' Union leader Mr Alec Smith, reported in your columns on January 23.

His argument is that, because the People's Republic of China is alleged to have manufactured jeans for export to the United States which bear a label saying that they were made in Hong Kong, all clothing made in Hong Kong should no longer be allowed to be imported into the United Kingdom.

A similar proposition would be that if an ice-cream was made in Japan and labelled "Made in UK" all countries would then be entitled to ban the importation of every kind of United Kingdom manufacture.

No doubt Mr Alec Smith is acting in what he believes to be the interests of his union, but he does them no service by using arguments of this kind and only succeeds in throwing doubt on

those of his arguments that may have some validity.

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Encouraging the search for minerals

From Mr T. H. H. Skeet, MP for Bedford (Conservative)

Sir, I think that both Sir Kingsley Dunham and Sir Peter Kent (January 9) have done little justice to the problem in suggesting that the way ahead for the development of minerals lies in the nationalisation of undiscovered resources. The use of petroleum on the landed areas of the United Kingdom as an illustration is demonstrably not a good one, as Messrs Seymour, Kennedy and Sherratt (January 14) have revealed. Further, on the Continental Shelf the ownership of oil does not vest in the Crown, pursuant to the Continental Shelf Act, 1964, but only the right to grant licences to explore for and exploit the resources lying beneath the seabed.

It is not ownership that matters but control, and this has been effectively secured for the state in the case of petroleum by at least five Acts of Parliament and the Regulations that accompany them: Petroleum (Production) Act, 1934, Continental Shelf Act, 1964, Petroleum and Submarine Pipe-lines Act, 1975, Oil Taxation Act, 1975, and the Energy Act, 1976. In fact, maximum work has been undertaken when maximum incentive has been provided, and least effort has been expended when regulations have proved unduly onerous. The whole policy of the Government should be to

persuade those with expertise and experience to develop work national resources within the context of a national programme. Ownership is irrelevant.

The real problem today is not so much the location of minerals as the access to them which is hindered by the environmental lobby and by complex provisions of town and country planning Acts. The National Parks rich in minerals are a case in point and it matters little whether there is a state or private undertaking seeking exploration rights. The National Coal Board has disapproved its open-cast programme has been held up by prolonged enquiries.

Whether we like it or not the vesting of coal in the Crown in 1938 (Coal Act, 1938) led to the development of the coal industry in a way not really beneficial to the future industrialisation of the United Kingdom. The inelastic structure established by the 1946 Act has prevented the British Steel Corporation from owning collieries for coking coal, the Central Electricity Generating Board from mining steam coal for power, and it has prevented the British Gas Corporation in due time from mining coals of the correct specification for gasification and liquefaction.

Minerals in private ownership can be developed in the national interest through the provisions

of the Mines (Working Facilities and Support) Acts, 1966, and particularly those sections dealing with the acquisition of ancillary rights.

Surely what Sir Kingsley and Sir Peter really have in mind is the continued accessibility of minerals suitable for industrial requirements in the future. This could be adequately secured by the revision of the Mining Exploration and Investment Grants Act, 1972, by more sympathetic provision in periodic town and country planning Acts and by state-funding of strategic stocks of key minerals.

The latter point requires a little further explanation. The current role of the state in my view is not to own the minerals in situ but to license their mining by the private sector, leaving it to the Government both to provide an economic climate in which they could operate and to protect the national interest. Further, it should provide strategic stocks comparable to the steps taken in 1975 when an investment of £175m (£11,160m) is to be funded by the House of Commons, by the Ministry of Defence, by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and by the Ministry of Health.

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Interest rates ahead of the Budget

The Bank of England had to provide the discount houses with very large assistance again yesterday and it looks like being another very tight week in money markets. Indeed, the present tightness could persist for several weeks yet given that the tax-paying season has still to run its full course.

What happens beyond that remains to be seen. The three obvious factors that will come into play are the trend in private sector loan demand, the need (or otherwise) for the authorities to activate fresh funding, and the way the authorities choose to play the scheduled recall of Special Deposits, due on February and March.

The less obvious factor lurking in the background is the possible trend in US rates. Are they simply taking a breather on their downward path, or are they about to test last autumn's peak? Certainly, the general expectation now seems to be that there will not even be a modest cut in MLR ahead of the Budget and, some would say, perhaps not even then.

What is interesting is whether the Chancellor would in fact announce a specific cut in MLR in the Budget speech. On the face of it, it would seem more sensible to express the hope that interest rates could be quickly lowered and then watch market reaction to the Budget before deciding precisely how much to cut MLR. The trouble here, of course is that the change in Budget day leaves precious little time for the market to sort itself out before Thursday lunchtime, the traditional time for changing MLR. By waiting a whole week, however, the Chancellor could give us all an Easter egg.

Oil profits

Assessing the Saudi move

Just how beneficial access to cheaper Saudi Arabian crude has been for the Aramco partners at a time when rising oil prices have led to a dramatic improvement in product margins was amply reflected last week with full year profits, gains ranging from 55 per cent at Exxon to 106 per cent at Texaco.

The results from oil groups more closely tied to the United States market now appear to bear out the majors' contention that the lion's share of the improvement comes from overseas where refining margins have improved sharply from their depressed 1978 level.

Price controls in the United States have resulted in much more modest gains for United States-based companies. Union Oil of California, for example, managed only a 26 per cent gain when it reported last week and yesterday Shell Oil, the United States arm of the Royal Dutch group, announced a 38 per cent rise in net income to \$1,100m.

Better natural gas and crude oil prices pushed up the oil and gas contribution to income by almost a half to \$747m while after the previous year's drop of more than a quarter earnings from chemicals jumped \$73m to \$173m.

Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia's move yesterday to raise the price of its market crude from \$24 to \$26 a barrel coming at a time of weakness in spot markets and the difficulties some other Opec producers are having selling their output means that the crude price advantage the Aramco partners have been enjoying for so long will begin to disappear.

Not that share prices of the United States majors have been reflecting this competitive advantage in recent months as investors have worried about the effect of the windfall profits tax and the insecurity of Opec supplies. The majors will however continue to benefit from higher crude prices but it now looks as though the big gains in the months to come from the Saudi move will be those with United States production which will become increasingly lucrative as oil prices are deregulated.

Accounting standards

The enforcement dilemma

Not all senior accountants are convinced that the apparent trend towards increasingly rigid reporting standards is in the interest either of the profession or the financial

community it is meant to serve. Over the past decade it has become the accepted wisdom that rule-making would solve the auditor's problem.

Strict standards of reporting and strict standards of auditing would prevent the collapse of apparently sound companies without warning, and where the odd mishap failed to be caught in an ever tightening net, the auditor would be exposed for failing to do his job properly and under new disciplinary procedures, would be justly punished.

But is this the right approach? The inflation accounting debate has highlighted the uncertainty involved in assessing company profitability. The profession has been moving towards an acceptable system, but it is far from universally agreed that any method based on ED 24 will produce a definitive answer to the everlasting search for a definition of how profit should be measured.

The more complex the questions the Accounting Standards Committee tries to solve, whether it be leasing, currency or recognition of mineral reserves, the more difficult it becomes to gain general agreement that one method provides the right answer.

If only the standards could be enforced, the argument goes, then agreement could be reached rapidly. Of this, Arthur Andersen personifies this view, believing that the profession moves too slowly and that a little of the big stick, possibly from government, would go a long way to solving the problems. But would that be a good idea? If there are genuinely differing methods of presenting figures, if rigid standards must always involve exceptions being made for companies which failed to fit into the general mould, should this not be reflected in the way standards are set and accounts drawn up?

At the moment where a technical breach of a standard is made, an auditor is obliged to qualify his report. The Auditing Standards Committee has laid down how this should be done to reflect the weight of the qualification. Some auditors feel, nevertheless, that the importance of qualifications is being permanently damaged by over-frequent use and, as a result, the force of the audit process is being weakened.

This argument leads to the idea of a return to relying on the words of the 1948



Mr Tom Watts, Chairman of the Accounting Standards Committee: still working on a review of standards.

Companies Act that accounts should show a "true and fair view", that auditing is an art and not a science, and that the auditor should use his discretion to account his charge according to judgement and experience, using standards as a guideline but not as a definition of the only available truth.

There are clear attractions in this point of view. Standards can create as great distortions as the lack of them, but they can also be a great strength for an auditor hard pressed by a dominant chief executive determined to have his accounts expressed in the best available light.

Rigid standards that cannot be enforced, however, are the worst of all worlds. What accountants, industry and the City must decide, and the argument is far from over, is whether the answer is rigidity and enforcement, which on the present showing almost certainly means government involvement, or self regulation and flexibility.

It seemed unfair and beside the point while the outcome of Rascal's bid was undecided, but the way in which the famous Decca company has finally lost its independence does raise in sharp focus a recurrent question of public interest.

The question is simply to whom is the controlling management of a company responsible. No doubt the outcome is sensible. If past experience is any guide, the shareholders of a company (if in fact divorced from being also its shareholders) were in general responsible to the long-term interests of the shareholders.

Of course, the model and the reality often and increasingly diverge. But company law to this day is based on the total primacy of the interests of shareholders, even if the reality of the way in which limited companies are run bears little relationship to it.

In fact, today, almost the only companies run substantially on the basis of the law and the old model are those which are wholly owned subsidiaries. In such companies the management is usually not in doubt that they are responsible in a real and direct way for their stewardship to their shareholders.

The case of Decca is complicated by the fact that it was and is both a public company and a private company (be) the creation of one man, Sir Edward Lewis, it was floated in 1928. The controlling interest was bought at the bottom of the stock market depression by Sir Edward, then a young stockbroker.

Hugh Stephenson

A question of stewardship

In the last hundred years as have other aspects of our society.

The model of nineteenth century capitalism and the great expansion of industry and commerce that happened with it was based on the acceptance that a company was owned by its shareholders; that it should be run in their enlightened self-interest; and that those in charge of running a company (if in fact divorced from being also its shareholders) were in general responsible to the long-term interests of the shareholders.

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With his steady nerve he survived until the war and with the military development of radar it became the company we know today. If ever a man could with justifiable pride say that a company was "his", it has been Sir Edward Lewis and Decca.

But at some stage in the development and growth of a company like Decca it becomes necessary to ask the question whether such a personal relationship to a company is appropriate. By the end Decca was a group with an annual turnover of not far short of £200m and employed some 12,000 people at home and overseas. That is too important a part of the British economy to be regarded as the disposable personal property of one individual.

Last year the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators published a series of papers on this question of how and to whom company managements should be responsible. In some ways the most interesting was the running of a company—the management of it; and the preservation of "the legitimate interests of people who have a relationship with the enterprise". These are two distinct functions and it is better for corporate structures to recognize that they are different.

Those with a legitimate interest in a company are many and various; its shareholders, its employees, the localities where it operates, the consumer, the public at large and so on. Yet balancing out these interests is not an appropriate part of the direct job of managing a company properly.

On the other hand, under existing arrangements most managements are in practice not responsible to anyone but themselves. For in the case of most companies, as Mr Jackson says, directors do not treat shareholders as if they were owners of the enterprise. "Owners of rights in relation to the enterprise—yes, but owners of the enterprise—no."

It cannot be good discipline for anybody, no matter how talented, to be in effect responsible to no one but himself. In private affairs it may not matter. But the direction of important public companies is not a private affair, even when voting control is secured in a single pair of hands. It is healthy to leave it to management to manage, but unhealthy if they are responsible only to an apathetic annual general meeting.

Mr Jackson's suggestion is that with a supervisory board, which must have no normal managerial functions, a structure is created to which the management of a company must give account of its stewardship. In the case of Decca the effective executive authority and responsibility for supervising the management were in the same hands. The result has been the extinction of an independent Decca.

US budget: no help in the fight against inflation

Washington

The budget of the United States is an unwelcome beast, prone to get fat swiftly and in constant need of a trainer determined to force it on to a trim and better diet.

President Carter's talents as a trainer are once again found wanting. The budget books for the 1981 fiscal year, starting on October 1, are unbalanced and another deficit is in prospect.

The new budget will not help the fight against inflation. It will add to credit market pressures and it could launch a new era of big increases in public spending.

President Lyndon Johnson used deficit spending to fund the Vietnam war. Now President Carter, prompted by new United States-Soviet tensions, looks as if he too is taking this path to finance sharp military spending increases. President Johnson's strategy is partly to blame for today's rampant inflation, which is now running at more than 13 per cent.

Americans have come to equate budget deficits with a lack of governmental resolution in combating inflation. President Carter has helped to foster this. He promised, during the 1976 election campaign, to balance the budget. He has failed to keep his word and his four deficits make an estimated combined deficit total of about \$140,000m.

The Federal Reserve Board's moderately tight policies are by themselves insufficient to boost public confidence

in the economy. The Administration's budget totals (millions of dollars)

Public years 1979 1980 1981

Federal 489,875 568,588 625,791

State 488,940 523,129 580,968

Local 27,733 30,754 35,775

Deficit 27,733 30,754 35,775

Source: White House Council of Economic Advisers.

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United States price stability.

The central bank needs the support of a restrictive fiscal policy. Such support is not in evidence in the new budget programme so the value of the dollar at home and abroad is all the more difficult.

The \$400,000m of budget deficits run up between 1961 and 1980 have contributed to the unhealthy inflation which America faces. The remedy must in part include fiscal prudence and it could launch a new era of big increases in public spending.

It is justified on the basis of the forecasts from the White House. These foresee a 1 per

Frank Vogl

cent real gdp decline during the 1980 calendar year and a 2.3 per cent gain in 1981. They also estimate 10.4 per cent inflation this year and 8.6 per cent next year.

The White House has resisted the temptation to paint the economic outlook in brighter colours than seem realistic as the election approaches. Mr James McIntyre, the budget office director, says that the deficit in 1981 could be said to be the price we pay for honesty. If we predicted a 6.75 per cent unemployment rate (instead of close to 7.5 per cent), then we could have shown a balanced, or almost a balanced budget.

But given the problem of inflation, the Administration should have been willing to accept still more sluggish growth in 1981 and it should have secured at least a balanced budget. Even the projected 1981 deficit of close to \$16,000m may prove to be too optimistic

an estimate. The Administration all too often underestimates budget deficits—last year the President's estimate was off by more than \$10,000m.

The increased tensions between the United States and Soviet Union may well add to outlays on defence, foreign assistance and agriculture. A deeper recession than anticipated will almost certainly lead to tax cuts and bigger unemployment relief programmes which will add more red ink to the balance sheet. Added to that Congress is likely to complete legislation providing at least \$1,000m less in windfall profits taxes from oil companies than the new budget suggests.

The Government's borrowing requirements are far greater than the budget figures indicate. So-called "off-budget" expenses, mainly government loans for such purposes as rural electrification, students and hospitals, are estimated to total over \$18,000m in the next fiscal year. The White House predicts the total public sector borrowing requirement will be \$44,300m for this calendar year and \$33,100m for 1981.

This borrowing will add to credit market pressures, to the need for money tightening difficulties and to the problems of curbing public spending in future years.

Interest being paid by the Government on three-month Treasury bills is even higher than the 1979 average of 10 per cent compared with an average of 5.6 per cent between 1970 and 1978, or just 4 per cent in the 1960s and 2 per cent in the 1950s.

The picture of public spending for the years ahead is one more characterized by a boldly upward pointing curve coloured in red. President Carter's administrative reforms and reorganization schemes, from

Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, has a tough couple of days ahead of him. Today he faces the House of Commons in a full scale debate on gas prices. Tomorrow he appears before the newly formed Parliamentary Select Committee for Energy to be questioned on his December policy statement and its implications for the nuclear programme.

The gas debate will, no doubt, engender much heat and not a little bit of cold. It is a matter of life and death for the consumer or as fervent energy conservationists.

The meeting with the select committee will be a different, and arguably far more crucial, affair. Mr Howell's series of interlinked problems: first, despite a decade of wrangling over which type of reactor the United Kingdom should choose for its future programme, that choice has not finally been made; second, because of a dearth of new power station orders the nuclear industry is in disarray; and finally because of the ever present fear that public opinion may turn against nuclear power the Government wishes to keep its statements on nuclear policy in as gentle and low a key as possible.

The select committee for its part will want to probe deeply, assessing whether the intended programme of building twelve or so power stations in ten years is possible, whether it is big enough, whether indeed it is necessary, and whether the Government is going to choose the best technology.

For the initial six weeks the committee has fixed itself a series of hearings which will provide widely conflicting evidence both on whether and how the nuclear programme should be conducted. Mr Howell will be followed next week by the Central Electricity Generating Board. Then comes the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority. After that, two hearings will be devoted to independent scientists and another will provide a platform for representatives of the anti-nuclear lobby.

Mr Howell's policy, announced in December, is a framework around which future decisions can be built: it reaffirms the stance of the previous Labour government which committed the nuclear industry

to building two British-designed second generation gas-cooled reactors, one at Heysham and the other at Torness, and in 1982, starting to build the first American-designed pressurized water reactor (PWR), to "establish an option" for an alternative system.

The CEGB are strong supporters of the PWR system, and, once planning permission has been granted and a safety case accepted by the authorities, the corporation is likely to order more PWR stations.

But first the safety case must be approved and the public inquiry must be held. There is, therefore, the chance that the PWR may never be built in this country.

Uncertainty thus remains over the future of the ordering programme. That uncertainty, in turn, has led its way into the nuclear industry which splits roughly into builders of components for the second generation advanced gas cooled reactors (AGRs) and supporters of the PWR.

All major nuclear component makers are shareholders in the government-sponsored monopoly contractor, the National Nuclear Corporation. Mr Howell has promised its reorganization but first he must choose a new chairman, and that is a very extremely difficult task to find a man acceptable to all sides.

Some nuclear engineers have got to the point where they care less which type of reactor is built, so long as building goes ahead.

The select committee is certain to hear evidence that Britain is settling for the wrong design, or the wrong licensee, or the wrong system. Some scientists may argue that the present type of reactor is doomed because of a potential uranium shortage developing within the next 40 years—the expected life time of a station—and that Britain should move



Mr James McIntyre, White House budget office director: "The deficit in 1981 could be said to be the price we pay for honesty."

"zero-based budgeting" to civil service restructuring, are making only a small dent on the charts.

Meanwhile, big new spending plans are on the drawing boards. The new cold war demands bigger defence outlays; fighting the energy crisis, which the President once claimed is "the moral equivalent of war", calls for more spending; national health plans and welfare reforms all suggest big price tags.

Inflation is not just boosting tax receipts, but boosting the fortunes of those politicians demanding tax cuts. Periodic tax cuts to offset the effects of inflation are certain.

The only counterweight to the pressures for real expenditure increases seems to be the windfall profits tax being enacted by Congress. This is expected to raise between 1979 and 1980 over \$22,000m. But it will actually cut some income and corporation taxes and its net return to the Treasury may well be little more than \$100,000,000m this decade, and the likely increases in military spending in the 1980s.

For most of the last three decades American governments have sought to fulfil the dreams of those who have elected them and provide, at the same time, substantial security for the western world.

President Carter has sought to move the some of his predecessors to turn the tide, but he has not yet gone far enough. Once again the budget is set to be in deficit and once again there is little evidence to suggest that future budgets will be any different. Meanwhile the Government continues to make significant demands on the credit markets at a time of record level interest rates, and the pace of inflation seems to be accelerating.

To produce a tighter fiscal policy would have involved large political risks for President Carter. But that is what is needed. The President proposes, the Congress disposes.

Grassroots months of debate will now begin on Capitol Hill, ending no later than September 25 with a final congressional budget resolution. There is always a danger, albeit a slight one, that the Congressmen will prove to be better inflation fighters than the man in the Oval Office.

straight to the commercial development and exploitation of the plutonium-based fast breeder reactor on the design of the prototype developed at Dounreay in Scotland.

That is almost certainly too big a technical jump. A paper published by the Science and Research Unit, however, casts doubt on the wisdom of basing a programme on PWR's on grounds of performance and suggests developing an alternative reactor system based on the Candu reactors pioneered in Canada.

Ironically the Candu, which performed the best of all reactors in the paper's survey of worldwide nuclear plant performance, uses a similar technology as the steam generating heavy water reactor, which on time became Britain's chosen development, only to be killed off.

The gas-cooled reactors come out poorly from the survey, largely because of the performance of the British Magnox reactors owing to component defects. The sample of Candu reactors, however, is small and the advanced gas cooled reactors have not been running for a sufficient length of time to show their performance to be fairly compared with other machines.

Comparison between different makes of PWR produces some disturbing factors. Medium size units of 400 to 800 megawatts perform best although the tendency has been to order larger units. Britain could order accordingly.

The most worrying aspect of the report is that the chosen licensee, Westinghouse, to whom letters of intent are shortly expected to be sent does not come out as top manufacturer. This honour is held by the West German group Kraftwerk Union. The authors naturally suggest this group should be chosen as the licensee of plants to be built in Britain.

The Select Committee for Energy should not want for questions.

*Worldwide Nuclear-Plant Performance by John Surrey and Steve Thomas. Science Policy Research Unit occasional paper February 1980 (briefer version in Futures, February 1980, published by IPC Business Press).

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Business Diary: Missing the Airbus • What price Mugabe?

Executives of the British aircraft equipment and aviation electronics industries are marked at the way contracts are allegedly being given to their French rivals by Airbus Industrie, the French/West German consortium which makes the European Airbus.

Britain has a fifth stake at government level in Airbus, but the equipment people here reckon they are picking up more than a tenth of the business.

Contracts, for which the United Kingdom tender beat the French hands down on price and quality, went nonetheless to the French industry, and one British company had to buy into its French competitor to get in on the Airbus action.

The French knife is twisted in the British wound by the thought from the British industry that much of the expertise across the Channel came from this side during joint programmes like Concorde and Jaguar.

The French and the Germans point out that they carried the enormous expense of the Airbus programme during the ten years between 1968, when Britain bailed out on the grounds that the sales prospects were poor, and 1978 when we came back in at government level.

Around 400 aircraft have been sold, and last year the Airbus family cornered 40 per cent of the world's wide-bodied airliner sales.

A colleague, concerned that a piece of urgent mail, posted in America well before Christmas, had apparently disappeared en route, discovered the reason when it arrived yesterday. It had been sent by surface mail—from the New York office of Pan-Am.

Robert Mugabe is bad news for the Rhodesian stock market. Despite the black nationalist's deliberately moderate tone since his return to Salisbury—no mass nationalizations, no seizure of efficient white farms—the size of the rally that greeted him on Sunday set off a bout of selling.

The market had been fairly bullish until then. Prices had risen strongly at the Lancaster House conference approached its denouement; there has been some flattening out since, more due to a lack of buyers than to a surplus of sellers.

"I think everyone is being a little cautious at the moment," says Peter Humphrey (right), chairman of the Zimbabwe Rhodesia Stock Exchange. "People want to see what sort of government emerges after next month's elections before they start investing again."

The Rhodesian market must be one of the most politically orientated in the world with

Fans of the western High Noon will remember that Sheriff Gary Cooper suffered from executive stress over the decision whether or not to leave town.

To stay, as management writers would say, meant he could continue "his town". To environment of a lessening of executive stress in that Grace Kelly would stop nagging him, as well as a furthering of his career in that Sheb Wooley would not plug him.

In the end, it turned out rather well, even though the sheriff did not consult or heed his wife. He stayed and shot up the opposition.

Life is not quite that simple in the pictures, outlined in The



Peter Humphrey: Mug

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Exchange to act in accounts disputes

By Alison Mitchell
Companies which seriously flout accountancy standards could face a suspension of their listing in the stock market.

Although the Stock Exchange has in the past emphasized that it will not police the rules and regulations of other bodies, it has agreed that it would be prepared to take this step under certain circumstances.

Mr George Nissen, deputy chairman of the council, said yesterday that if shareholders were having the wool pulled over their eyes, the listing of the company concerned could be suspended. However, he added that most auditors' qualifications did not fall into this area.

Mr Nissen has already written to Mr Tom Watts, chairman of the Accounting Standards Committee, offering the assistance of the Stock Exchange on any panel formed to adjudicate on accounting disputes. This review group, which

will also involve the Council for the Securities Industries, is likely to be set up within the next three months.

It would review any cases of disagreement between auditors and their clients and make public their decisions. It is thought that in most cases publication of the report would be enough to discipline either side and only in extreme cases would further action be necessary.

The panel could, however, recommend a change in the accounting standard, bring the auditors before their disciplinary committees or ask the Stock Exchange for help. Although the Stock Exchange has agreed in principle to take the necessary action, it does see its role as adjudicator.

The Quotations Department, which already looks at company accounts, would act as the initial point of contact, so there would be no need to set up an independent monitoring committee.

Furness Withy stake

Mr Frank Warby, until recently chief executive of Euro-cannadian Shipholdings, who is making his home in Britain, has not yet given up his struggle to win representation in the Furness, Withy boardroom.

His private family company, Dolphin Investments has sold 52,500 shares, taking the share stake down to 10.99 per cent where it is only just above the 10 per cent stipulated by the Monopolies Commission.

He is now asking the Minister of State at the Department of Trade for further clarification of the position regarding the voting rights attached to the shares. The Department of Trade's position remains that the voting rights will be frozen if they are used to gain access to the Furness boardroom. However, Dolphin does not plan to dispose of the bulk of the shareholding "except at acceptable price levels".

Provincial newspaper advertising showed some decline towards the end of last September and Lord Rothermere warned that there could be a further falling off.

\$2.26m sale surplus for Associated Newspapers

By Our Financial Staff

Associated Newspapers Group, which includes the Daily Mail and the London Evening News, showed a £2.26m surplus on the sale of a leasehold property on the South Bank of the Thames last year.

The sale was completed after the group had obtained planning permission for the site. Lord Rothermere, Associated's chairman, said in the annual report.

Reorganization at the Evening News which included a reduction in manning levels, cost the group £4.4m during the 21 months to September 30, 1979, but Lord Rothermere pointed out that the changes were carried out with virtually no disruption. "In the recent troubled industrial climate of the industry both the Evening News and the Daily Mail have suffered little loss of production."

Earnings from the Argyll oil fields have considerably improved and three new wells now account for 61 per cent of total production, while realized prices increased by 50 per cent during the 18 months under review. The oil exploration programme is continuing although drilling has been disappointing.

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Stock markets

Oils make the running as gold slips again with a price drop of \$25 to \$635

Equities began the new account on a firm, but quiet note yesterday, as the troubles on the industrial front continued to cast a shadow.

Oils were a bright spot, aided by the enthusiasm surrounding the major United States giants which are currently mid-way through their reporting season.

As a result, most of the majors were marked higher at the resumption of dealings yesterday morning and interest soon spilled over into second-liners and North Sea shares.

Duple Industries rose 1p to 25p. Buyers expect profits this year to next August to reach nearly £5m against £3.7m last time. The recent chairman's statement was confident, and the group is on the acquisition trail.

Gold, on the other hand, were mostly easier as the bullion price retreated once again, dropping \$25 to \$635 an ounce.

Gilt continued to experience light trading, while dealers still tried to overcome the indigestion brought about by the two new top stocks last week.

In longer, gains of about £3 to £4 were reported, while the shorter end, falls of about £1 were noted after some fluctuating business of little volume.

Prices after hours tended to

drift lower on the worsening situation in the steel dispute and reports that the water authority workers had rejected their latest offer. Therefore, the FT Index closed only 1.2 up at 453.6, after touching its high point of 4.0 up at 11 am.

Leading industrials were mostly firmer where changed, as in the case of ICI, reporting next month and with oil interests in the Ninian Field, 4p higher at 380p. Fisons, however, slipped 2p to 287p while Reed International were nervous ahead of today's third-quarter figures, easing 1p to 194p.

BAT, reporting on Wednesday, improved 5p to 270p.

Among companies reporting, Ellis & Everard jumped 1p to 130p after a 53 per cent profits

expansion at the half-way stage, while Braid Group, with full-year's figures, finished unchanged at 32p as did Neepsend at 47p.

Government approval for a rail-link under the channel boosted Channel Tunnel 44p to 142p in a thin market.

Bid speculation, in spite of denials, lifted Appleyard a further 4p to 83p and speculative buying provided Serck with a 6p rise at 45p.

Profit-taking clipped 5p from Sotheby Park Barnett at 465p. Doughty, with figures due next week, climbed 3p to 177p.

Shares of Decca continued to move further in line with Rascal's offer, rising 15p to 375p in the ordinary and 11p to 355p in the "A". Rascal

also continued to draw interest, rising 4p to 231p, but Muthhead slipped 12p to 193p after its recent profits setback.

Oils were much firmer than of late, with investment interest spilling over from the United States and encouraged by the news that Saudi Arabia had increased its price of oil to \$26 a barrel. Among the majors BP rose 6p to 342p and the "new" for which the remaining cash is to be paid on February 6, climbed 1p to 135p, 15p short of its issue price. Shell was 8p stronger at 350p and Ultramar advanced 14p to 448p.

Siebens was still sought, following recent bid speculation, and leapt a further 40p to 690p and CCP North Sea

was another firm spot, improving 37p to 325p. Gulf Stream Resources leapt 20p to 255p in anticipation of a drilling report. Among shares with North Sea interests, IC Gas jumped 18p to 683p and Yule Catto 10p to 128p.

Fears of another fierce price war began following an announcement by Associated Dairies, 6p lower at 182p and reporting this week, that it intended to reduce prices of over 300 of its lines. This prompted falls of 13p in Sainsbury at 289p and 2p in Tesco at 68p.

Spurred by the Saudi price increase, just about every oil share went ahead yesterday. Among the buyers were brokers Scott, Giff, Hancock. This oil specialist will be holding an oil seminar at London's Tower hotel on Thursday.

Press comment gave rubbers a further boost with London and Sumatra 13p higher at 413p and RMB 11p better at 194p. The current year-end, although there are some signs of recovery now, this side of the group has been hit badly.

Although borrowings as a percentage of shareholders' funds, amounted to more than 80 per cent last year, the group are looking around for other Ford dealerships in an attempt to reduce dependence on one supplier. A final dividend of 1.7p gross gives a full-year total of 2.5p, an increase of 6p per cent on the previous year. Unchanged at 32p yesterday, the shares are trading at 2.7 times fully-taxed earnings and yield almost 8 per cent.

Latest results

Company	Share	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int or Fin	£m	£m	per share	psence	date	total
Brentnall Beard (F)	2.5(4.5)	1.2b(0.5b)	11.91b(6.85b)	—	—	—(0.57)
Braid Group (F)	41.2(30.9)	0.7(0.9)	11.7(13.8)	1.2(1.0)	21/3	1.7(1.5)
Catry & New Taxis (I)	—	0.55(0.29)	—	0.2(0.2)	—	—(0.65)
Cantors (I)	9.0(8.15)	0.15(0.34)	1.94(4.65)	0.82(0.82)	1/5	—(1.29)
Ellis & Everard (I)	13.9(10.5)	0.83(0.54)	12.4(8.2)	2.5(2.25)	22/2	—(8.35)
Estates Prop Inv (I)	—	0.91(0.68)	—	2.5(1.5)	—	—(2.75)
Kellogg Bldgs (F)	33.6(22.7)	0.15(0.07)	5.43(2.61)	0.51	—	—
Midland Trust (I)	17.4(11.5)	0.21(0.17)	3.43(2.61)	2.45(2.01)	3/3	—
Neepsend (I)	—	1.3(0.72)	3.0(1.48)	1.0(0.9)	—	—
Stirling Kelt Gr (I)	4.9(3.0)	0.24(0.20)	4.18(3.5)	0.35(0.36)	31/3	—
Unit Secs (I)	—	2.9(1.8)	—	2.25(1.4)	—	—

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on profits per share. Elsewhere, Business News are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.425. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. a=gross income, b=loss.

KNOCKING BRITISH INDUSTRY JUST ISN'T CRICKET.



Commonplace though it may be to dismiss the British economy as having a lack-lustre performance, there are many examples of continuing success which deserve recognition.

For example, financial services, energy, data communication, leisure and retailing are all areas in which Britain still excels. As do many leading British industrial companies, amongst whom Hanson Trust's success story would be hard to better. At September 30, 1979, the pre-tax profit of Hanson Trust rose for the sixteenth successive year, increasing by 19% over 1978, to a record £31.2 million with cash resources of £43 million.

OPENING THE INNINGS

Hanson Trust has been built up carefully to reflect a business philosophy that has not changed in sixteen years. It was our intention to build on a good existing business, continue its growth and enlarge it when we were sure that its success merited support.

At the same time, as innovators, we have sought planned investment in new companies which meet our growth criteria. This willingness of Hanson Trust to make bold moves into new areas is well known and widely supported.

WHY WE SCORE HEAVILY

In the UK, Hanson Trust has built up a solid foundation of growth in basic straightforward industries. Butterley Building Materials, a market leader in facing bricks, is one excellent example of this commitment to basic industry. Adding this to the very best in management standards, applied throughout all our companies, has made Hanson Trust the outstandingly successful entity that it is today.

BUILDING A LONG INNINGS

Hanson Trust places great value on management professionalism. To succeed, a company needs excellent management, our commitment to which is consistently relentless.

Consistency, then, has always been a Hanson Trust byword. Consistent in aim, consistent in good management, consistent in development and consistent in growth of profit and earnings per share, year by year.

However, our success in Britain is only half the Hanson Trust story. For the full picture, and to see just what we have achieved in the USA since we went there in 1973, please send for a copy of our Annual Report to Hanson Trust, FREEPOST, London SW3 1BR (no stamp required) or telephone: (01) 589 7070.

After all, to ignore the other half of our success story just wouldn't be cricket.

Hanson Trust

The industrial management company where people are as valued as assets.

Poor Cavalier car supplies hit Braid's second half

By Our Financial Staff
Supply problems with the Cavalier car left a second-half shortfall at vehicle distributors Braid Group.

In the 12 months to September 30, the group made a pre-tax profit of £740,000—some 18 per cent down on the previous year's £900,000. Turnover rose by a third, from £31m to £41m, leaving pre-tax margins a point tighter at 1.8 per cent. The main problem for the group was an inability to get cars and parts from their main supplier, Vauxhall, and the group report that another 1,000 Cavalier cars could have been sold in the year.

The nine-week strike at

Vauxhall, which began in September, has hit profits in the current year-end, although there are some signs of recovery now, this side of the group has been hit badly.

Although borrowings as a percentage of shareholders' funds, amounted to more than 80 per cent last year, the group are looking around for other Ford dealerships in an attempt to reduce dependence on one supplier. A final dividend of 1.7p gross gives a full-year total of 2.5p, an increase of 6p per cent on the previous year. Unchanged at 32p yesterday, the shares are trading at 2.7 times fully-taxed earnings and yield almost 8 per cent.

Ellis and Everard pleases with 53pc interim rise

By Our Financial Staff

Ellis and Everard, the industrial chemicals distributor, exceeded expectations by boosting pre-tax profits 53 per cent at the half-way stage. The share price rose 7p to 130p after the announcement.

On turnover up by 32 per cent to £13.9m, pre-tax profits jumped from £546,000 to £835,000 in the six months to October 31, 1979.

Most of the improvement came from the chemical division where sales, at £13.5m, were 28 per cent ahead of the previous year. The swimming pool division, formed after an acquisition last year, made a small contribution and turnover

amounted to £401,000 for the six months.

The interim dividend has been raised from 3.35p gross to 3.57p.

But Mr Anthony Everard, chairman, said the second half is unlikely to show a similar level of profitability, although the group is already set to make more than £1m profit this year.

"The economy is stagnant and there are fewer working days, because of holidays, available to us." Margins are also under pressure because of overseas competition and the increased prices of raw materials, while the swimming pool division operates in a seasonal market, he said.

RANTLIDGE

Private investment company Rantledge, which took over the troubled Nationwide Leisure, is in convening an extraordinary meeting in a bid to remove the existing chairman and two of his fellow directors. Rantledge is to appoint its nominees to the board. It is thought that the dispute stems from a failure to agree on compensation terms for the existing board members.

LONRHO

Mr Graham Ferguson-Lacey, chairman of National Carbonising, says he is negotiating to buy 19 per cent of Lonrho from Gulf Fisheries of Kuwait. At today's price it is worth £40.5m and would be bought on behalf of a Lacey-controlled private United States company, if terms are agreed.

NEEPSEND

On sales up from £11.5m to £17.4m, trading profits of Neepsend almost doubled to £1.39m (against £722,000) in the half-year to September 30. Earnings per share, 3.05p (1.48p). Interim payment raised from 1.31p to 1.45p gross. Chairman, Mr Stanley Speight, is confident that, subject to any dramatic change in industrial situation, level of profitability will be maintained in second half.

CAPARO

Singlo Holdings has sold its Indian tea interests to Caparo for £1.5m cash. Caparo has also bought Empire Plantations & Investments for about £1.5m. Caparo will hold 58.84 per cent of Empire.

LOUIS C. EDWARDS

At the extraordinary general meeting of Louis Edwards the resolutions to approve the acquisition of Cordón Bleu-Freemantle Food Centres and to increase the authorized capital of Edwards were passed and the acquisition of Cordón Bleu has been completed. The merger discussions with Morgan Edwards are continuing and may lead to Louis Edwards making a share offer for Morgan Edwards. A further announcement will be made by the middle of February.

Briefly

STIRLING KNITTING

Although turnover of Stirling Knitting Group slipped from £3m to £2.44m in the half-year to September 30, pre-tax profits rose from £204,000 to £243,000. Interim payment, 0.50p gross (same).

ESTATES PROPERTY

Pre-tax income of Estates Property Investment Co rose from £685,000 to £914,000 in the half-year to October 31. Interim payment, gross, up from 2.35p to 3.57p.

F. AND C. EUROTUST

F. and C. Eurotust has arranged a five-year, multi-currency loan facility of £1m with Williams & Glyn's Bank. Loan has been drawn initially for three months in 7m French francs and 130m yen.

Business appointments

New MD named at 3M

Mr Robert C. Olney is the new managing director of 3M United Kingdom. He succeeds Mr Donn Osmon who has taken up a new assignment within the 3M International organization.

Mr E. E. Smith and Mr T. G. Harle have been appointed directors of J & A Scrimgeour.

Mr D. S. Hay, an agricultural division deputy chairman, has become ICI's general manager, commercial, with effect from March 1, 1980. He succeeds Mr R. C. Hampel whose appointment as chairman of paints division was announced recently.

Mr D. W. Gamble has been appointed a director of Nobel's Explosives Company.

Mr Roger W. Brittain becomes a new director of Touche, Remnant & Co.

Mr R. C. Stevens has been

made general sales director of Newall Group Sales. He retains his position as sales and marketing director of Elliott Machine Tools, another company within B. Elliott Group.

Mr John Tonge and Mr Andy Allan have joined the board of Tyne Tees Television.

Mr Michael E. Kelsey has been appointed managing director of Arrow-Hart (Europe) replacing Mr Allan E. Flatman who has been made chairman of the company until his retirement in September 1980.

Mr T. Keely has been appointed a director of Birchwood Concrete Products and of its wholly owned subsidiary company, Birchwood Concrete (Scotland).

Mr E. W. Penherton has been elected to the board of directors of Pilamex.

Mr C. G. Rober has been appointed secretary of John Brown and Company.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

1. *Journal of Management Studies*, 1995, 32, 1, 1-14.

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Tuesday, 29th January, 11 a.m.
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Illustrated Catalogue £1.25 by post
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POSTAGE STAMPS: British Commonwealth
Illustrated Catalogue 50p by post including stamp sale on 1st Feb.

Friday, 1st February, 11 a.m.
ENGLISH & CONTINENTAL SILVER & PLATE
Illustrated Catalogue 50p by post
Friday, 1st February, 11 a.m.
POSTAGE STAMPS, Continued

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FURNITURE, EASTERN CARPETS & OBJECTS
Monday, 4th February, 11 a.m.
WATERCOLOURS
Monday, 4th February, 2 p.m.
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Tuesday 12th February at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Wednesday 13th February at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Thursday 14th February at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Friday 15th February at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Saturday 16th February at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Sunday 17th February at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Monday 18th February at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Tuesday 19th February at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Wednesday 20th February at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Thursday 21st February at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Friday 22nd February at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Saturday 23rd February at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Sunday 24th February at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Monday 25th February at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Tuesday 26th February at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Wednesday 27th February at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Thursday 28th February at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Friday 29th February at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Saturday 30th February at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Sunday 1st March at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Monday 2nd March at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Tuesday 3rd March at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Wednesday 4th March at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Thursday 5th March at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Friday 6th March at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Saturday 7th March at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Sunday 8th March at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Monday 9th March at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Tuesday 10th March at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Wednesday 11th March at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Thursday 12th March at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Friday 13th March at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Saturday 14th March at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

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Wednesday 18th March at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Thursday 19th March at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Montpelier Galleries, Montpelier Street,
Knightsbridge, London SW7 1HH
Tel: 01-584 9161, Telex 916477 Bonham G.

At the Montpelier Galleries:
On view 2 days prior: Tuesday evening view until 7 p.m.
Wednesday, 30th January, at 11 a.m.
MODERN BRITISH & CONTINENTAL PAINTINGS & DRAWINGS, 1880-1980, incl. works by M. Wickham, P. J. Pullester, Kate Oliver, A. Allison, Pamela Weston, C. Conder, M. Harvey, W. Sturt, L. Antcliffe, P. Scoppetta, Ch. Camoin, G. D'Esmeaux, Cat. 50p.

Thursday, 1st February, at 11 a.m.
SELECTED EUROPEAN OIL PAINTINGS, incl. works by E. Veron, W. Williams, T. Schur, E. J. Newman, T. R. Miles, A. J. Mould, R. Rivers, A. Johnson, H. J. Sedgwick, T. F. Fildes, Cat. £1.

Friday, 2nd February, at 11 a.m.
ENGLISH & CONTINENTAL FURNITURE & RUGS, incl. a pair of G. III. underclothes, illus. cat. 50p. View Tuesday, 29th Jan. 10.30 a.m. - 2.30 p.m. - 1st and 2nd floors.

Salerooms and Antiques

Phillips

Tuesday, 29th January, 11 a.m.
FURNITURE, EASTERN CARPETS & WORKS OF ART
 Tuesday, 29th January, 11 a.m.
IMPRESSIONIST & MODERN PICTURES & SCULPTURE
illus. Catalogue £1.25 by post
 Tuesday, 29th January, 2 p.m.
CLOCKS & WATCHES
illus. Catalogue £1.25 by post



Arrière Moulée par le sculpteur de la Renaissance.

Wednesday, 30th January, 11 a.m.
ENGLISH & CONTINENTAL CERAMICS & GLASS, including good English Cameo Glass, English & Dutch Delft, good examples of early Worcester & Chelsea, early Meissen Figures & Wares
illus. Catalogue £1.25 by post

Wednesday, 30th January, 12 noon
LEAD SOLDIERS
illus. Catalogue 8p by post

Thursday, 31st January, 11 a.m.
ART NOUVEAU & DECORATIVE ARTS
illus. Catalogue £1.25 by post

Thursday, 31st January, 11 a.m.
POSTAGE STAMPS: British Commonwealth
illus. Catalogue 6p by post including stamp sale on 1st Feb.

Friday, 1st February, 11 a.m.
ENGLISH & CONTINENTAL SILVER & PLATE
illus. Catalogue 6p by post

Friday, 1st February, 11 a.m.
POSTAGE STAMPS, Continued

Monday, 4th February, 11 a.m.
FURNITURE, EASTERN CARPETS & OBJECTS

Monday, 4th February, 11 a.m.
WATERCOLOURS

Monday, 4th February, 2 p.m.
PRINTS
illus. Catalogue 3p by post
See illustration

Tuesday, 5th February, 11 a.m.
FURNITURE, EASTERN CARPETS & WORKS OF ART

Tuesday, 5th February, 1.30 p.m.
ANTIQUE & MODERN JEWELLERY

PHILLIPS WEST 2
 10 SALEM ROAD, LONDON, W2

Thursday, 31st January, 10 a.m.
FURNITURE, PORCELAIN & WORKS OF ART
Viewing: Wednesday 9 am-7 pm

PHILLIPS MARYLEBONE
 HAYES PLACE, LONDON, N.W.1

Friday, 1st February, 10 a.m.
FURNITURE, PORCELAIN & OBJECTS
Viewing: Thursday 9 am-5 pm

Phillips principal saleroom at
7 BLENHEIM ST., NEW BOND ST., LONDON W1Y 0AS.
Tel: 01-629 6602. Telex: 298855.

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Catalogues 3p by post (viewing 2 days prior unless otherwise stated).

Members of the Society of Fine Art Auctioneers.

CONTRACTS AND TENDERS

SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA MUNICIPALITIES SECRETARIAT

BIDS INVITED FOR INTERNATIONAL TENDER TO CONSTRUCT PUBLIC ZOOLOGICAL, BOTANICAL AND RECREATIONAL GARDENS

The Municipality of Tripoli, in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, invites international companies specialised in all aspects of the construction of public gardens, to submit their bids in respect of an invitation for a international tender to build the Zoological Gardens in the Al-Nasr Forest, Tripoli. This work entails a zoological garden, botanical gardens, a recreational and sports complex; the nature of the works imply that the tenderer shall have broad experience in the execution of such projects and shall have an established capability in the field of business and similar contracts in general terms.

BIDS
 Tenders must be submitted as an integrated project on a fixed price basis as per the contract terms, in accordance with the conditions, specifications, bill of quantities and other tender documents. A tender shall be considered to be in force and incapable of withdrawal for a period of six months with effect from the last date set for the submission of bids. The Municipality shall have the right to accept or refuse any bid without the need to provide its reasons therefore or furnish any sum in compensation.

SPECIFICATIONS
 A copy of the tender specification may be obtained from the following, for a sum of 2,000,000 (two thousand) Libyan dinars, non-refundable.
 Tripoli Municipality, Tripoli.
 Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

BID DEPOSITS
 Each bid is to be accompanied by a preliminary bond in the form of 1% of the value of the tender; it may be submitted in cash to the Municipality exchequer, or by bank cheque, or by letter of guarantee issued by a bank operating in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. A letter of guarantee must be valid for at least three months beyond the currency period of the tender.

CLOSING DATE
 A tender must be placed in an envelope sealed with red wax, inscribed thereon Tripoli Municipality, Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, and deposited at the tenders office prior to the date set for the opening of envelopes, which is: 24 February 1980, twelve noon (8/3/1389 A.H.). This time and date is the last date for acceptance of bids. If it should happen that this day is an official holiday, the set date shall be that immediately following, and at the same place and time previously indicated.

Sotheby Parke Bernet & Co.

34-35 New Bond Street, London W1A 2AA
 Telephone: (01) 403 8080

Tuesday 29th January at 10.30 am
PRINTED BOOKS RELATING TO NATURAL HISTORY AND SCIENCE Cat. £1.25

Tuesday 29th January at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH POTTERY AND PORCELAIN Cat. £1

Wednesday 30th January at 11 am and 2.30 pm
GOOD JAPANESE PRINTS, JAPANESE ILLUSTRATED BOOKS, SCREENS AND JAPANESE AND CHINESE PAINTINGS Cat. (34 illus.) £1

Wednesday 30th January at 11 am
19th CENTURY EUROPEAN PAINTINGS and at 2.30 pm

19th CENTURY EUROPEAN DRAWINGS AND WATERCOLOURS Cat. (192 illus.) £5-75

Friday 1st February at 10 am
ORIENTAL RUGS AND CARPETS and at 2.15 pm

at The Royal Watercolour Society Galleries, 26 Conduit Street, London W1

ENGLISH FURNITURE Cat. (72 illus.) £1-75

Monday 4th February at 11 am
SILHOUETTES AND ENGLISH AND CONTINENTAL PORTRAIT MINIATURES Cat. (44 illus.) 8p

Monday 4th February at 11 am and 2.30 pm
VALUABLE PRINTED BOOKS Cat. (13 illus.) £4

Catalogues may be purchased at our salerooms or by post from 2 Merrington Road, London SW6 1RG. Telephone: (01) 281 3173.

Other salerooms and offices: Chancery Lane (01) 405 7238; Bournemouth (0202) 294425; Cambridge (0223) 676245; Cheltenham (0242) 570505; Chester (0244) 48833; Dublin (0001) 789368; Edinburgh (031) 226 7201; Harrogate (0423) 5104667

Sotheby's

FOUNDED 1744



Thursday 31st January at 11 am at Belgraveia. A bust of Queen Victoria, made to mark the Golden Jubilee after an original by R. J. Morris, 43 cm.

Sotheby's

Magdalene House, Magdalene Street, Tamworth, Somerset TA1 1SR Telephone: (0823) 88441

Thursday 31st January at 10.30 am
FURNITURE, GLASS AND CERAMICS, SILVER, COLLECTOR'S ITEMS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. illus. Cat. £1-20

Sotheby's Belgraveia

29 Moorgate Street, London EC1A 3LB
 Telephone: (01) 235 4311

Tuesday 29th January at 11 am
VICTORIAN WATERCOLOURS Cat. (108 illus.) £1-50

Wednesday 30th January at 11 am
FRANCE AND CONTINENTAL FURNITURE AND WORKS OF ART Cat. (41 illus.) 60p

Thursday 31st January at 11 am
ENGLISH CERAMICS Cat. (58 illus.) 80p

Tuesday 5th February at 11 am
VICTORIAN PAINTINGS, DRAWINGS AND WATERCOLOURS Cat. (79 illus.) £1-25

Sotheby's Beane

Rainbow, Torquay, Devon TQ2 5TG
 Telephone: (0803) 26277

Tuesday 29th January at 10 am
SILVER, SHEFFIELD AND ELECTROPLATE Cat. illus. Cat. £1

Wednesday 30th January at 10 am
JEWELLERY Cat. illus. Cat. £1

Sotheby's King and Chasemore

Station Road, Fulbourn, West Sussex RH10 1AJ
 Telephone: (0782) 2081

Wednesday 30th January at 2.30 pm
ANTIQUARIAN AND MODERN BOOKS AND MAPS Cat. 60p

Tuesday 5th February at 10.30 am
ORF AND WAXWORK FURNITURE, METALWORK

Wednesday 6th February at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN CERAMICS, ORIENTAL CERAMICS AND EASTERN WORKS OF ART Cat. illus. Cat. £1-20

Montpelier Galleries, Montpelier Street, Knightsbridge, London SW7 1HH

Tel: 01-584 9161. Telex: 916477 Bonham G.

At the Montpelier Galleries.
 On view 2 days prior to Tuesday evening view until 7 p.m.

Wednesday, 31st January, at 11 a.m.
MODERN BRITISH & CONTINENTAL PAINTINGS & DRAWINGS, 1880-1980, incl. works by M. Wickham; P. J. Pelletier; Kate Overy; A. Allerton; Penelope Boston; C. Conder; H. Harvey; W. Stran; L. Sutcliffe; P. Scopetta; Ch. Canoin; D. D'Espagnat. Cat. 50p.

Thursday, 1st February, at 11 a.m.
SELECTED EUROPEAN OIL PAINTINGS, incl. works by E. Vernon; W. Williams; T. Schu; E. J. Niemann; T. R. Miles; A. J. Maudslayi; B. Riviere; A. Johnson; H. J. Bodington; T. Fed. Illust. cat. £1.

Thursday, 1st February, at 2.30 pm
ENGLISH & CONTINENTAL FURNITURE & RUGS, incl. a

At the Chelms Galleries, Tuesday, 29th January, at 10 a.m. FURNITURE & CARPETS. Cat. 30p. View Monday, 9-11 Tuesday, 9-10.

Bonhams

New Chelms Galleries, 65-69 Lomb Road, London SW10 0RN. Tel: 01-352 0466.

Representatives in Scotland, N. Highlands, S. W. England, E. Anglia, W. England & Wales.

Reason oak armchair 18th C.; 18 oak white dresser 18th C.; Geo. III. walnut side cabinet; 18th Victorian mahogany

Thursday, 1st February, at 11 a.m.
FINE STAMP SALE. Strong Commonwealth section, incl. Ireland 1935 24 coil used; Malta 1919 10; min. 10; S. Helen 1923-50 15; Cat. illus. New Tues. 29th, 2.30-7; Wed., 30th, 10.30-3; Thurs., 31st, 9-3.45.

Friday, 1st February, at 11 a.m.
PORCELAIN & WORKS OF ART. Cat. 30p.

Tuesday, 5th February, at 11 a.m.
SILVER & PLATE, incl. a fine Nathaniel Milt staff bust; a pair of Geo. III. candlesticks, illus. cat. 30p. View Tues., 29th 10.30-3; Wed., 30th 10.30-3; Thurs., 31st 9-3.45.

At the Chelms Galleries, Tuesday, 29th January, at 10 a.m. FURNITURE & CARPETS. Cat. 30p. View Monday, 9-11 Tuesday, 9-10.

Glendinings

Specialists in the Sale by Auction of Coins and Medals

7 BLENHEIM STREET, NEW BOND STREET, W1Y 9LD Telephone 01-485 2445

Wednesday & Thursday, 8th & 9th February, at 10 a.m. each day

ENGLISH & FOREIGN COINS

IN GOLD, SILVER AND COPPER

also NUMISMATIC BOOKS, CATALOGUES, etc. (Illustrated Catalogue 15 Plates—Price £1.)

Wednesday, 13th February, at 10.30 a.m.

BRITISH ORDERS, DECORATIONS & MEDALS

Including a good series of late Roman and Byzantine coinage. (Illustrated Catalogue 15 Plates—Price £1.)

Wednesday, 13th March, at 10.30 a.m.

ANCIENT COINS

IN GOLD, SILVER AND BRONZE

Including a good series of late Roman and Byzantine coinage. (Illustrated Catalogue 15 Plates—Price £1.)

Wednesday, 13th March, at 10.30 a.m.

ENGLISH & FOREIGN COINS

IN GOLD, SILVER AND BRONZE

Including a good series of late Roman and Byzantine coinage. (Illustrated Catalogue 15 Plates—Price £1.)

Catalogues for further Sales of Coins and Medals to be held in the Spring are now in course of preparation. Collectors desirous of seeing should contact Glendinings & Co. promptly.

PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF BRISTOL

Variable Rate Redemption

The Council of the City of Bristol

announces that the half-yearly redemption of interest on the City of Bristol

on the above stock will be at the rate of 28.00 (close income tax) per £100 of stock.

28th January, 1980.

LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN

Variable Rate Redemption

For the six months from 27th

January, 1980 to 27th July 1980

the interest rate on the above stock will be £17.2500% per annum.

28th January, 1980.

LONDON FLATS

PIMLICO FLATS, £24,000 to £30,000. — Pimlico Properties, Ltd. 4600.

MORTGAGES & FINANCE

REIMBURSEMENT, mortgages, top up loans, etc. Martin Mascoe Ltd. 01-346 4653.

PUBLIC NOTICES

BRITISH RAILWAYS BOARD

Notice is hereby given that merchandise and articles received by

passenger trains for and for left in the railway possession unclaimed.

The owners of such articles, or have retained delivery, will be sold as scrap metal.

At the New London Road, London E1 6AN, on 1st February, 1980, at 10.30 a.m.

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PROPERTY WANTED

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PERSONAL TRADE 01-789131

MANCHESTER OFFICE 061-8341234

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... and how also the ad is laid out in the most effective way possible, which brings the most favourable results.

BIRTHS

BIRLOW—On January 25th, to Grace and Alan a daughter, Catherine Jane Birlow. (The Times, 10, 11, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100).

DEATHS

BARLOW—On January 25th, to Grace and Alan a daughter, Catherine Jane Barlow. (The Times, 10, 11, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100).

BIRTHS

BIRLOW—On January 25th, to Grace and Alan a daughter, Catherine Jane Birlow. (The Times, 10, 11, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100).

DEATHS

BARLOW—On January 25th, to Grace and Alan a daughter, Catherine Jane Barlow. (The Times, 10, 11, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100).

BIRTHS

BIRLOW—On January 25th, to Grace and Alan a daughter, Catherine Jane Birlow. (The Times, 10, 11, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100).

DEATHS

BARLOW—On January 25th, to Grace and Alan a daughter, Catherine Jane Barlow. (The Times, 10, 11, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100).

BIRTHS

BIRLOW—On January 25th, to Grace and Alan a daughter, Catherine Jane Birlow. (The Times, 10, 11, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100).

BIRTHS

PHALP—On January 25th, to John and Jane a daughter, Jane Phalp. (The Times, 10, 11, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100).

BIRTHDAYS

JOE, Fred, Ret. Cat. with wife and family. Happy Birthday.

DEATHS

ASKREW—On January 27th, 1980, peacefully at home after a long illness, Mrs. Mary Askrew, nee Jones, aged 85 years. (The Times, 10, 11, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100).

DEATHS

BARKER—On January 27th, 1980, peacefully at home after a long illness, Mrs. Mary Barker, nee Jones, aged 85 years. (The Times, 10, 11, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100).

DEATHS

CHRISTIE—On January 27th, 1980, peacefully at home after a long illness, Mrs. Mary Christie, nee Jones, aged 85 years. (The Times, 10, 11, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100).

DEATHS

CROSS—On January 27th, 1980, peacefully at home after a long illness, Mrs. Mary Cross, nee Jones, aged 85 years. (The Times, 10, 11, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100).

DEATHS

DALE—On January 27th, 1980, peacefully at home after a long illness, Mrs. Mary Dale, nee Jones, aged 85 years. (The Times, 10, 11, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100).

DEATHS

DEAN—On January 27th, 1980, peacefully at home after a long illness, Mrs. Mary Dean, nee Jones, aged 85 years. (The Times, 10, 11, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100).

DEATHS

DUGAN—On January 27th, 1980, peacefully at home after a long illness, Mrs. Mary Dugan, nee Jones, aged 85 years. (The Times, 10, 11, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100).

DEATHS

GALLETLY—On January 27th, 1980, peacefully at home after a long illness, Mrs. Mary Galletly, nee Jones, aged 85 years. (The Times, 10, 11, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100).

DEATHS

GIBBS—On January 27th, 1980, peacefully at home after a long illness, Mrs. Mary Gibbs, nee Jones, aged 85 years. (The Times, 10, 11, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100).

DEATHS

GOSPIN—On January 27th, 1980, peacefully at home after a long illness, Mrs. Mary Gospin, nee Jones, aged 85 years. (The Times, 10, 11, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100).

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